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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Afghanistan

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its eighteenth session from 27 January to 7 February 2014. The review of Afghanistan was held at the 2nd meeting, on 27 January 2014. The delegation of Afghanistan was headed by Mohammad Qasim Hashemzai, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Justice. At its 10th meeting, held on 31 January 2014, the Working Group adopted the report on Afghanistan.

2. On 15 January 2014, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Afghanistan: Benin, Estonia and the United Arab Emirates.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Afghanistan:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/18/AFG/1 and Corr.1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/18/AFG/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/18/AFG/3 and Corr.1).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Afghanistan through the troika. Those questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review (UPR).

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The head of the delegation affirmed the commitment of Afghanistan to the promotion and the protection of human rights, in particular women's and children's rights. That commitment was evident at the national level in the provisions of the Constitution and various laws, and in policies and plans that had been enacted in accordance with the Constitution and international obligations. The Government had taken major steps to pragmatically implement human rights conventions and to prepare and present national reports on the status of their implementation.

6. Afghanistan had gone through the first UPR cycle in May 2009, and received 143 recommendations. At that time, Afghanistan had declared its support for most of those recommendations; only 10 did not enjoy its support. It had taken the recommendations seriously, undertaking a number of initiatives in various ministries and institutions in Afghanistan. To prepare the report for the second UPR cycle, the Government had established a national process, whereby civil society and human rights institutions had been involved in the process of data collection and report analysis. The report had been prepared on the basis of a plan of action the Government had created in 2012 for follow-up to the recommendations.

7. The Government had actively promoted and protected civil and political rights in Afghanistan. Afghanistan was a good example in the region with respect to promoting freedom of speech, freedom of the media and freedom of associations without censorship.

8. The President of Afghanistan constantly met with representatives of national and international media, human rights activists and women's rights defenders. The High Council of Media, composed of representatives of civil society, media groups and the Ministry of Information and Culture, was working to protect the rights and activities of the media and journalists.

9. Afghanistan was currently preparing for the presidential and provincial council elections. The Government had invited international observers to monitor the process of fair and free elections. According to the Independent Election Commission, in 2013 3,305,799 citizens, 1,140,854 of whom were women, had received voting cards to participate in the elections. Human rights organizations and civil society activists would closely monitor the upcoming elections. The political opposition groups freely organized their political programmes without any intervention from the Government. There were 59 registered political parties in Afghanistan.

10. Afghan citizens had access to health care, education, employment and trade unions.

11. The Constitution guaranteed education as a right of all citizens; education was provided free of charge and in native languages up to the bachelor's degree level .

12. Owing to efforts made by Afghanistan to improve the quality and quantity of education, the following progress had been made between 2009 and 2013:

- Schools had been constructed, increasing the total number from 11,460 schools in 2009 to 15,169 in 2013; of those, 2,267 were allocated to girls
- The number of students had increased from 6,504,715 in 2009 to 8,643,940 in 2013; of those, 3,353,991 were female
- A total of 135 million books had been printed between 2009 and 2013, at a cost of US$ 90 million
- The number of students enrolled in vocational schools had increased from 18,296 in 2009 to 71,625 in 2013; 11 per cent of those were female
- The number of training centres for literacy had increased from 20,031 in 2009 to 26,486 in 2013, providing courses to 563,460 students
- Total enrolment in higher education had increased from 52,000 in 2009 to 220,000 in 2013

13. In accordance with the Constitution, the Government was obliged to provide free health services for all Afghan citizens without any discrimination.

14. With respect to health services, various policies and strategies had been developed. Of particular note were: the public health programme entitled "Health for all Afghans", covering the period 2012–2020; the System Enhancement for Health Action in Transition project, aimed at supporting health-care provision for the period 2013–2018; the Health and Human Rights Strategy and the Gender Strategy; and the Health Financing Policy 2012–2020.

15. Recent data indicated that substantial improvements had been made in the health-care sector. For example, the maternal mortality ratio had dropped from 1,600 to 327 deaths per 100,000 live births, the under-five mortality rate had been reduced from 257 to 97 deaths per 1,000 live births and the infant mortality rate had decreased from 129 to 77

deaths per 1,000 live births. About 46 per cent of infants had received the measles vaccination and the rate of polio vaccination had increased from 50 to 95 per cent.

16. The main challenge, however, was the lack of security in some of the remote areas of Afghanistan. Terrorist groups targeted schools, hospitals and other public-service institutions. Teachers, health workers, women activists and childcare staff were considered to be the most targeted groups.

17. The Government continued the process of legal reform in the light of the international conventions that Afghanistan had ratified. The Government had reviewed 73 laws, 34 regulations and 27 strategies, including the Civil Code, the Penal Code, the Juvenile Code, the Elimination of Violence against Women Law and the Citizenship Law.

18. Women's rights and gender equality remained a top priority for the Government. Afghan women constituted 27 per cent of legislators in the Parliament. Women occupied 25 per cent of government jobs, including 9 per cent of those at decision-making levels. Girls currently represented about 40 per cent of the nearly 9 million children attending school in Afghanistan. About 30 per cent of the school teachers and 15 per cent of the university lecturers were women. In terms of the workforce in other areas, Afghan women constituted 24 per cent in the health-care sector, 5 per cent in security and 30 per cent in agriculture. Women also accounted for 20 per cent of the enrolment in higher education and 35 per cent of the participants in vocational training. Women represent at least 50 per cent of those working in the country's independent media and civil society groups.

19. In addition to fostering greater participation of women in the above-mentioned sectors, the Government had adopted various measures for the protection of women and the prevention of violence against them in the previous four years. Of particular note were: (a) the adoption of the Elimination of Violence against Women Law; (b) the establishment of special prosecution offices for cases of violence against women; (c) the establishment of the High Commission for Prevention of Violence against Women and provincial offices thereof in 23 provinces; (d) the establishment of 16 protection centres/shelters for women victims of family violence; (e) the establishment of departments of women's affairs in 32 provinces; (f) the establishment of gender units in 22 ministries; and (g) the establishment of a gender and human rights unit within the police academy.

20. The Government was developing a national plan of action on women, peace and security for beyond 2014, with a view to adopting additional measures to increase the participation of women, to prevent violence against women and to provide relief and recovery services.

21. The Government had adopted appropriate measures to ensure that children were protected against all forms of discrimination or punishment on the basis of the legislative provisions of the Labour Law, the Juvenile Code and the human trafficking law and of the policy provisions and activities under, inter alia, the National Strategy for Children at Risk and the national plan of action on children in armed conflict. Afghanistan had also received from the United Nations a 15-point road map on further implementation of the national plan of action on children in armed conflict that the Government intended to approve and implement.

22. The Government continued to stand firm in fighting corruption. Several measures, including the adoption of the Anti-Corruption Law and the establishment of civil and military anti-corruption prosecution units and tribunals, had been taken.

23. The Constitution prohibited torture and inhuman, humiliating and cruel punishment under all circumstances. In order to track torture-related cases, human rights units and supervisory boards had been established in the Ministry of the Interior, the National Directorate of Security and the Ministry of Defence. The second report of Afghanistan

under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) was being prepared and would be submitted in September 2014.

24. Afghanistan still faced a number of challenges, relating to terrorism, extremism, narcotics and insecurity in some parts of the country, that had slowed progress in the area of human rights and the implementation of transitional justice.

25. Poverty and corruption had made it difficult to tackle those challenges. The scarcity of resources to finance a nationwide welfare programme was another challenge.

26. Afghanistan was a war-torn country that had achieved enormous gains and successes in the previous 12 years in various areas, including human rights; those achievements had been won in the face of exceptionally tough conditions and ongoing challenges.

27. Afghanistan was strongly determined to take effective measures to strengthen its capabilities, in collaboration with the international community.

28. The head of the delegation concluded his introductory remarks by stating that the implementation of programmes and reforms aimed at promoting and protecting human rights in Afghanistan required the cooperation and participation of all governmental bodies and civil society, as well as direct cooperation and support from the international community, in particular international organizations active in the area of human rights. He expressed hope that Afghanistan would gradually witness greater improvements in human rights.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

29. During the interactive dialogue, 88 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II below.

30. Azerbaijan commended the measures taken in the areas of health care, poverty reduction and child trafficking and action to improve the social, economic and educational status of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees.

31. Bangladesh noted the new legislation and measures concerning violence against women; the rights of persons with disabilities, children and women; gender equality; access to health care; and poverty reduction.

32. Belgium welcomed the progress made since the first UPR cycle.

33. Sri Lanka welcomed the progress made in combating terrorism and insecurity.

34. Morocco welcomed the adoption of several national plans of action.

35. Brazil noted the improvements in school and university enrolment.

36. Canada enquired about measures to ensure the implementation of the Elimination of Violence against Women Law.

37. Chile recognized the efforts made by Afghanistan to advance human rights.

38. China welcomed the State's efforts to strengthen human rights mechanisms.

39. Comoros noted that the State's achievements were particularly impressive, given its situation of quasi-civil war.

40. Croatia enquired about measures to prevent girls from being charged with "running away"/"moral crimes".

41. Cuba welcomed the ratification by Afghanistan of human rights treaties and the adoption of legal standards in the areas of health care, education, employment and discrimination against women.

42. The United States of America expressed concern about violence against women, the punishment of victims of trafficking and family abuse, and violations by national security forces.

43. Denmark expressed concern about the lack of equal opportunities for women, domestic violence, trafficking in women, "honour killings" and forced marriage.

44. Djibouti expressed its appreciation of the action taken to restore the rule of law and to promote human rights.

45. Ecuador welcomed the establishment of the High Peace Council and human rights support units in various ministries, as well as the adoption of electoral reforms.

46. France commended the promulgation of the Elimination of Violence against Women Law of 2009.

47. Estonia noted with regret the setbacks in implementing core international human rights instruments.

48. Ethiopia encouraged Afghanistan to take further action to implement revised legislation, to alleviate poverty and to promote sustainable peace and development.

49. Finland enquired about the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and related resolutions and the application of legislation on eliminating violence against women.

50. Egypt commended the State's efforts to combat terrorism, narcotics and corruption.

51. Germany noted that more women enjoyed their human rights and actively engaged in society, but a commitment to gender equality was lacking.

52. Greece noted that women continued to be subjected to forced marriage and honour killings.

53. Hungary expressed concern about arbitrary police arrests, ill-treatment in detention, violence and discrimination against women, the rights of IDPs and the culture of impunity.

54. Iceland expressed concern about gender equality, violence against women, child marriages, low female representation in decision-making and access by girls to education.

55. India commended the adoption of electoral legislation and the establishment of the Electoral Complaints Commission.

56. Indonesia commended the establishment of human rights support units in some ministries, the development and implementation of strategies and programmes, and efforts to strengthen legal and administrative frameworks.

57. The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed its appreciation for the National Development Strategy, the national priority programmes, judicial reforms and action to counter corruption and drug trafficking.

58. Iraq commended efforts to combat terrorism, which represented the greatest challenge to the protection of human rights.

59. The delegation of Afghanistan responded to some of the questions raised in the interactive dialogue. Regarding the Elimination of Violence against Women Law, the delegation stated that the Government strongly believed in the implementation of the law,

emphasizing that perpetrators of violence against women would be prosecuted and punished.

60. Regarding elections and access to voting for women, the delegation noted that polling stations would be staffed by female workers and that women would be able to vote separately.

61. Regarding human rights defenders and female politicians, the Government had assigned three police protection officers to each provincial department of the Ministry of Women's Affairs. Security forces had been trained and advised to take the necessary measures to support and protect female politicians.

62. The delegation emphasized that Afghanistan recognized and condemned violence against women and all other forms of discrimination against them. It affirmed the State's commitment to implementing all international conventions to which Afghanistan was a party.

63. The delegation asserted that the people of Afghanistan were inspiring survivors and not hopeless victims. The Government remained firm in its commitment to implementing human rights standards and was constitutionally bound by all international treaties that it had ratified and by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

64. The delegation confirmed that the process for developing the national plan of action on women, peace and security included women at all levels of the negotiations and decision-making process.

65. Regarding the use of torture, the delegation stated that any confession obtained through any act of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment was not valid and was inadmissible as evidence in a court of law. All prison officers had guidelines that included instructions not to engage in torture; using torture to obtain a confession was punishable by law.

66. Ireland expressed its concern that the Elimination of Violence against Women Law had not been effectively implemented.

67. Italy asked whether relevant International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions and education measures would be implemented to address child labour.

68. Japan raised concerns about judicial delays and failures and about the torture of detainees. It commended measures promoting and protecting women's rights.

69. Kazakhstan welcomed the incorporation of numerous provisions of international human rights treaties in domestic legislation.

70. Kuwait commended the establishment of the High Peace Council and human rights support units in ministries, as well as the development of a public health vision.

71. Latvia welcomed new legislation aimed at eliminating violence against women, and the State's accession to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

72. Libya urged the Government, the international forces and the Taliban to refrain from targeting civilians and to reduce the number of civilian victims, particularly children and older people.

73. Lithuania expressed concern about violence against women, and about the proposed increased control of the media.

74. Malaysia welcomed measures to improve detention conditions, to prohibit the recruitment of child soldiers and to strengthen law enforcement.

75. Maldives urged the State to comply with its obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and to continue efforts to address the situation of children, forced labour and access to education.

76. Mauritania encouraged Afghanistan to take more vigorous action to implement human rights legislation.

77. Mexico welcomed the State's ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Convention against Discrimination in Education and Protocols I and II Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949.

78. Montenegro asked how legal reforms would incorporate international standards, in particular those set out in CEDAW.

79. Bosnia and Herzegovina requested further details on how the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission addressed challenges such as insecurity and obstacles to good governance.

80. Nepal expressed its appreciation for the reforms to strengthen institutional, legislative and policy mechanisms and the special attention paid to vulnerable groups.

81. The Netherlands welcomed the advances in human rights and, in particular, women's rights.

82. New Zealand welcomed progress in women's rights, the work of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and legislation on prisons and detention centres.

83. Nicaragua noted the State's limited institutional, legislative and financial capacity to address the persistent serious challenges stemming from drug trafficking and terrorism.

84. Nigeria urged Afghanistan to promote increased participation by women in the provincial council legislatures.

85. Norway expressed concern about violence against women and the failure to investigate and prosecute cases in that area.

86. Pakistan commended the legislative action taken to eliminate discrimination against women and to improve their political, social and economic status.

87. The Philippines welcomed the State's ratification of international human rights instruments and its adoption of the Elimination of Violence against Women Law.

88. Poland expressed concern about the failure to implement the Elimination of Violence against Women Law, the persistent gender inequalities and the recruitment of child soldiers.

89. Portugal expressed concern about the setbacks in women's rights and about the number of acts of violence against women and girls.

90. Qatar commended the vigorous action taken to protect children from exploitation in the armed conflict.

91. The Republic of Korea expressed concern that the Elimination of Violence against Women Law did not criminalize honour killing.

92. Romania noted the serious challenges faced in building a fully functional State.

93. The Russian Federation emphasized the importance of the national dialogue between the Government and representatives of civil society.

94. The delegation referred to measures taken by Afghanistan to combat the trafficking of people in Afghanistan, including the implementation of the law on human trafficking. Afghanistan also enforced and implemented all provisions of the International Convention

on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Government had recently conducted campaigns against illegal migration.

95. The Government of Afghanistan had worked closely with various partners to establish support centres for victims of human trafficking and illegal migration. Such centres provided victims with educational and integration support.

96. Regarding the situation of persons with disabilities, the delegation confirmed that the number of disabled persons in the country was high. There were currently 105,000 disabled persons registered in Afghanistan.

97. The delegation stated that article 49 of the Constitution and article 4 of the Labour Law prohibited child labour in Afghanistan. The minimum age for employment was in accordance with the relevant ILO convention. The Government was currently working with ILO and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to draft a new child code that directly addressed all children's rights-related issues.

98. Saudi Arabia commended the steps taken to enact new legislation and introduce institutional reforms.

99. Singapore noted the efforts to prevent police and security force abuse and illegal and arbitrary detention.

100. Slovakia asked how allegations of torture and ill-treatment would be investigated.

101. Slovenia expressed its appreciation of the State's efforts to enhance the status of women.

102. South Sudan expressed its appreciation of the adoption of measures to promote women's rights and gender equality.

103. Spain welcomed the reduced imposition of the death penalty in recent years.

104. Bhutan commended initiatives on the rights of vulnerable groups and on eliminating violence against women.

105. The State of Palestine encouraged Afghanistan to incorporate the provisions of the Convention against Discrimination in Education into national legislation.

106. The Sudan commended the State's accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto.

107. Australia acknowledged the progress made in strengthening women's rights.

108. Switzerland expressed its concern at discrimination and violence against women.

109. Tajikistan noted the steps taken to strengthen legislation to eliminate discrimination against women.

110. Thailand commended the adoption of human rights-related legislation and the State's accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, but noted with concern discrimination against women, ill-treatment of female prisoners and violence against children.

111. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia encouraged Afghanistan to impose a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty.

112. Tunisia encouraged Afghanistan to take more vigorous action to implement the Elimination of Violence against Women Law.

113. Turkey commended strategies and programmes that prioritized human rights, but noted that the Elimination of Violence against Women Law remained largely unenforced.

114. Turkmenistan commended the establishment of the High Peace Council and the human rights support units in various ministries, as well as the adoption of electoral reforms.

115. The United Arab Emirates enquired about the role assigned to the human rights system for the transformation decade 2015–2015.

116. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland asked how the authorities would build on their response to the 2013 report on the mistreatment of detainees.

117. The Czech Republic acknowledged the achievements made since 2009, but noted that more progress was needed to implement key UPR recommendations.

118. Uruguay welcomed the legislative and other reforms adopted in the light of international treaties, and the draft Shiite personal status law.

119. Uzbekistan commended the strengthening of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission, the establishment of human rights units in ministries and the reforms of the electoral system.

120. Viet Nam expressed its view that security, reconciliation and better social, economic and cultural conditions would be the foundation for the full enjoyment of rights and freedoms.

121. Yemen welcomed the enactment of the Juvenile Code, the Elimination of Violence against Women Law, the Law on Combating the Financing Terrorism, the Labour Code, Anti-Corruption Law and the Law on Countering Abduction and Human Trafficking.

122. Albania requested more information on plans to address impunity for honour killings. It expressed concern about acts against freedom of expression.

123. Algeria noted that further efforts were required to promote human rights, particularly in the areas of judicial reform, the fight against discrimination and the strengthening of human rights institutions.

124. Argentina encouraged Afghanistan to take more vigorous action to implement the Elimination of Violence against Women Law.

125. Sweden welcomed the enactment of the Elimination of Violence against Women Law, but noted that women continued to suffer discrimination and abuse.

126. Austria expressed its concern about impunity and called for further efforts to ensure accountability.

127. Bahrain noted that, notwithstanding intensified efforts to promote gender equality, discrimination against women and girls persisted.

128. Kyrgyzstan commended the measures taken to improve the quality and quantity of education and to strengthen the legal and institutional framework pertaining to educational equality and non-discrimination.

129. The delegation recalled that the combined initial and second periodic reports on the implementation of CEDAW had been considered in 2013; it would provide the Committee its national plan of action for that implementation. The committee responsible for reviewing the Penal Code and other laws would do so in the light of the international human rights conventions to which Afghanistan was a party. Afghanistan intended to accede to the Optional Protocol to CEDAW.

130. The delegation confirmed that forced marriage and child marriage were still major challenges in Afghanistan. However, the Government had taken specific measures

regarding that issue, including: the signing by relevant bodies of the Protocol for the Elimination of Violence against Women and the Elimination of Child and Forced Marriages; the incorporation of forced and child marriage as a crime in the Family Law and the Elimination of Violence against Women Law; and awareness-raising through media campaigns, workshops, seminars and campaigns at the provincial level. Regarding "running away", the delegation confirmed that running away from home was not a crime. The Government would not punish a woman or a girl for running away from home unless crimes were associated with that act. Regarding the media, the country's record had improved over a period of 12 years; there were currently more than 55 television stations, 150 radio stations and 1,000 printing and publication companies in the country. Article 34 of the Constitution recognized freedom of speech. Journalism-related issues were regulated by the Law on Mass Media. A number of amendments had recently been made to the Law on Mass Media for the benefit of media organizations and journalists. The delegation confirmed that media organizations could prepare their programmes free of censorship by or intervention from the Government. However, oversight of and support activities for media organizations were carried out through the Ministry of Information and Culture and the High Council of Media.

131. Regarding the role of women in the peace process in Afghanistan, the delegation confirmed that the Government believed in the Afghan-led peace process, with the participation of women and the inclusive structure of peace negotiations. In addition to the nine female members of the High Peace Council, several members of the provincial peace committees and the Secretariat of the High Peace Council were women. The High Peace Council activities were guided by a gender-balance strategy that guaranteed the presence of women at the negotiations table.

132. The head of the delegation stated that the Penal Code criminalized honour killing and that perpetrators of such crimes were not exonerated. The Penal Code was currently under review; the article on honour killing most probably would be revised in line with the State's commitment to the international community and CEDAW.

133. Regarding the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission, the head of the delegation stated that the Commission had been established in accordance with the Afghan Constitution and General Assembly resolution 48/134. The principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) had also been considered during the recent selection of the members of the Commission. The Commission was the most influential institution monitoring human rights in Afghanistan and maintained its independence. A total of US$2 million had been allocated for its budget: US$500,000 for 2012 and US$1.5 million for 2013.

134. The delegation stated that a legal aid programme had been set up and that there was a law on legal aid, which benefited women and girls in particular; the aid was free of charge.

135. The head of the delegation concluded his remarks by thanking all international partners and human rights monitoring bodies for their continued and fruitful assistance and cooperation, which helped Afghanistan strengthen its commitment to human rights. He expressed his gratitude to all those countries that supported and helped Afghanistan and that were interested in the issues of Afghanistan, and to all those who had participated in the Working Group. The head of the delegation thanked the President of the Council and the participants for the interactive discussions. He stated that the people of Afghanistan were striving towards development and the enjoyment of human rights in a nation affected by generations of war and terrorism. He affirmed the State's commitment to respecting, promoting and protecting human rights.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

136. **The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below have been examined by Afghanistan and enjoy its support:**

136.1 **To further build up on its effort to fully protect human rights in the country (Ethiopia);**

136.2 **Continue and deepen efforts to firmly root human rights values and principles in the Government system, including through human rights training to state officials (Indonesia);**

136.3 **Make further efforts to ensure the implementation of the legal framework which guarantees human rights, including the Constitution (Japan);**

136.4 **Further fulfil the internationally taken human rights obligations as well as integrate them into the national legislation (Kazakhstan);**

136.5 **Further strengthen its efforts to review its legislative framework and make necessary adjustments to it in order to ensure that it is in conformity with Afghanistan's international human rights obligations (Norway);**

136.6 **Accelerate domestication process of international human rights laws to which Afghanistan is a member, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Viet Nam);**

136.7 **Continue the process of making domestic laws compliant with the international conventions to which Afghanistan is party (Bahrain);**

136.8 **Take necessary measures to implement a national public awareness campaign on human rights, especially women and children's rights (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

136.9 **Support the establishment of human rights units within more ministries (Iraq);**

136.10 **Take into account the outcomes of this universal periodic review in the process of transformation and national reconstruction and pay particular attention to the most vulnerable social groups, among which, women and children (Nicaragua);**

136.11 **Continue to spread human rights awareness throughout the country and include it in the national curriculum (Pakistan);**

136.12 **Continue its constructive engagement with its regional and international partners to meet the challenges in the promotion and protection of human rights (Philippines);**

136.13 **Attract aid and attention of the international community and donors for further strengthening and supporting human rights institutions working within the framework of the Afghan Government for protection, observance and realization of the human rights (Saudi Arabia);**

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

136.14 **Further empowerment of the Legislation Department of the Ministry of Justice in the area of specialized human resources, professional staff and other necessary facilities (Saudi Arabia);**

136.15 **Continue its efforts to enhance the rule of law and ensure peace and safety in its society (Singapore);**

136.16 **Take all the necessary steps to ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan to halt child recruitment and other violations against children (Slovenia);**

136.17 **Strengthen the technical capabilities of the judicial and legal institutions (State of Palestine);**

136.18 **Observe all human rights principles, international conventions and raise awareness among students in higher education institutions regarding human rights values (Turkmenistan);**

136.19 **Increase efforts in the process of technical support and consultation services in order to support the reforms in the area of human rights in order to align them with international standards (United Arab Emirates);**

136.20 **Take measures to ensure coordination of activities of national and international human rights organisations working on different aspects of human rights in Afghanistan (Uzbekistan);**

136.21 **Continue taking steps in order to fully protect and promote the rights of women and children, especially by protecting them from violence (Kazakhstan);**

136.22 **Extend a standing invitation to all Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);**

136.23 **Extend an open invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council and establish an adequate mechanism to bring to date all national reports to the Committees and to respond to information requests of the special procedures (Uruguay);**

136.24 **Continue its efforts to enable women to enjoy their legitimate rights, and to highly prioritize awareness raising among all sections of the community regarding the women's rights and the importance of their realization within the cultural and civil context of the Afghani society (Sudan);**

136.25 **Continue its efforts in establishing and providing public services through social security, especially for women and children (State of Palestine);**

136.26 **Work towards the earliest possible adoption and effective implementation of the Law on Social Protection (Viet Nam);**

136.27 **Endeavour to improve on the institutions of health care delivery in order to facilitate accessible health services for its citizens, especially women and children (Nigeria);**

136.28 **Strengthen efforts to eliminate illiteracy, particularly in rural areas (Kyrgyzstan);**

136.29 **Increase the focus on persons with disabilities and work towards integrating them in the community (Iraq);**

136.30 **Further increase its efforts to ensure access to education and health care to all including people with disabilities (Bhutan);**

136.31 **Guarantee that repatriated Afghan refugees, particularly women and girls, have adequate access to sanitation services, education, food, housing, freedom of movement and opportunities (Uruguay);**

136.32 **Continue the measures with regard to strengthening self-reliance of the returning refugees and IDPs (Azerbaijan);**

136.33 **Establish measures for displaced persons to have particularly better access to the land and to improve their shelters and infrastructures nearby (France);**

136.34 **Adopt comprehensive legislation or policies with a view to facilitating durable solutions for internally displaced persons (Austria);**

136.35 **Adopt further national strategies for eradication of poverty and improvement of livelihoods for citizens (Morocco);**

136.36 **Further promote economic and social development and urge the international community to honour its commitment of assistance, making more investment in the field of welfare and assisting the sustainable development for Afghanistan (China);**

136.37 **Take into full account children, girls in particular, the most marginalised groups, including persons with disabilities, in the strategy and programmes of development in the area of health and education (Djibouti);**

136.38 **Continue implementing national policies and programmes to improve the living conditions of the people (Kuwait);**

136.39 **Adopt more effective and strict good governance policies in order to ensure prosperity for the Afghan people (Mauritania);**

136.40 **Give continuity to fighting poverty and improving the quality of life of people (Nepal);**

136.41 **Advance in the coordination of the different government departments with competencies on the issue of water (Spain);**

136.42 **To strengthen its efforts for poverty eradication and to guarantee the right of education all over the country (Sudan);**

136.43 **Make prioritized efforts to achieve Millennium Development Goals as soon as possible (Viet Nam);**

136.44 **Take all necessary measures to ensure equal access to health and education (Bahrain);**

136.45 **Continue strengthening the protection of vulnerable groups, such as the group of victims of war (Spain);**

136.46 **Energetically drive forward judicial reform, combat corruption and enhance the capacity of the judiciary (Germany);**

136.47 **Take all the appropriate measures to ensure the creation of a functional and independent judiciary (Romania);**

136.48 **Take measures to improve the criminal justice system, including through the implementation of the 164 articles outlined in Presidential Decree No. 45 of August 2012 (Japan);**

136.49 **Make every effort possible to ensure the human rights of prisoners and detainees are fully observed in the criminal justice system (New Zealand);**

136.50 **Continue its efforts in the field of poverty reduction so that the vulnerability of children to risks of poverty, human trafficking and kidnapping is decreased (Azerbaijan);**

136.51 **Continue its measures in laws and other pieces of legislation concerning the promotion of equity, the situation of women and their education opportunities (Azerbaijan);**

136.52 **Continue its efforts to empower women and underprivileged segments of the society (Ethiopia);**

136.53 **Continue taking steps aiming to achieve further economic empowerment of women (Egypt);**

136.54 **Take all possible actions to eliminate all forms of violence against women and amend all Laws that discriminate against women (Greece);**

136.55 **Continue its efforts in improving the situation of women (India);**

136.56 **Continue steady enforcement and implementation of measures and legislation designed to promote and protect women's rights (Japan);**

136.57 **Continue its efforts to strengthen the domestic legal system to protect women and girls and promote greater gender equality (Singapore);**

136.58 **Continue the efforts aiming at promotion and protection of the rights of women (Algeria);**

136.59 **Take initiatives to improve recruitment and retention of female police officers (Sweden);**

136.60 **Comply with its CEDAW obligations, and undertake further steps to empower women at all levels by creating more employment opportunities and increasing their rights in participation in decision-making (Bahrain);**

136.61 **Ensure that all of Afghanistan's religious communities are able to practice their religion freely and that their right to freedom of religion or belief is protected in any new legislation or legislation currently under review (Canada);**

136.62 **Ensure freedom of religion in the legislation and in practice and promote tolerance through awareness-raising campaigns and free access to information (Mexico);**

136.63 **Implement and enforce provisions on freedom of religious worship set out in the Constitution and international human rights treaties to which it is a party (Czech Republic);**

136.64 **Continue efforts to guarantee health care at both levels identified (Cuba);**

136.65 **Further facilitate access to health services and education, especially for women and children (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

136.66 **Take further steps to provide access to education and healthcare for all citizens, particularly in rural areas where there is an immediate need (Pakistan);**

136.67 **Continue strengthening access to education, in particular, to orphans, children with disabilities and children of missing parents (South Sudan);**

136.68 **Introduce and adopt a gender strategy that would be implemented in the higher education institutions (Turkmenistan);**

136.69 **Enhance efforts to eliminate discrimination against Afghan women and to promote leadership and equal participation in political, peace and reconciliation processes (Croatia);**

136.70 **Protect the rights of women by ensuring their participation in political life and in all the peace and reconciliation processes as well as equal opportunities in the area of education and employment (Djibouti);**

136.71 **Implement the Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security, by ensuring, in particular, participation of women on an equal footing and at every level of responsibility in the reconciliation process (France);**

136.72 **Fully implement the National Action Plan of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security (Estonia);**

136.73 **Implement UN Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security, including by supporting the participation of women in peace talks, and continuing to increase the proportion of women playing an active role in the security forces, in particular the police, while ensuring their safety and dignity in their place of work (Ireland);**

136.74 **Implement the Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security, in particular by supporting the participation of women in peace negotiations and ensuring the necessary framework to increase the participation of women in political and judicial life and within security institutions of the country, taking into account their security as well as their personal dignity (Belgium);**

136.75 **Revise the legislation on child marriage and the legal age of marriage so as to be consistent with international standards, with the aim of both harmonizing the legal framework by eliminating the co-existence of different prescriptions in Civil Law and in Shari'a regulations and preventing the practice of early and forced marriages (Italy);**

136.76 **Enact and implement legislation that protects children, and set the minimum age for marriage at 18 for both girls and boys (Sweden);**

136.77 **Ensure that any physical and moral harm against journalists or human rights defenders is subjected to an investigation and that those responsible are duly prosecuted (Belgium);**

136.78 **Ensure that no governmental entity endorses the restriction of freedom of expression in any way whatsoever (Belgium);**

136.79 **Ensure that no government entities restrict the right to freedom of expression and that media regulations conform to Afghanistan's international human rights obligations, and ensure prompt and effective investigations of threats, attacks and killings of journalists in order to prevent them and to bring those responsible to justice (Lithuania);**

136.80 **Allow journalists, human rights defenders among all others to exercise the right to freedom of expression (Maldives);**

136.81 **Continue measures to combat terrorism, including the financing of terrorism (Sri Lanka);**

136.82 **Deploy possible additional efforts to prevent cases of torture and ill-treatment and to prosecute perpetrators (Italy);**

136.83 **Consider a possibility of improving the penitentiary system as well as implement, in the national legislation, provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Russian Federation);**

136.84 **Continue advancing in the fight against torture and ill-treatment in the administration of justice, of the security forces of the State and in the penitentiary centres (Spain);**

136.85 **Further strengthen the Legal Aid Department of the Ministry of Justice and establish relevant mechanisms for coordination of its activities with other entities working in the area of providing legal assistance (Uzbekistan);**

136.86 **Ensure that access to education is not hampered by differences, particular gender, and take necessary measures to guarantee security of female students and staff members (Mexico);**

136.87 **Continue to enact measures to ensure girls' right to education, namely the reinforcement of security, hiring of more female teachers and improvement of schooling facilities (Portugal);**

136.88 **Continue to take all possible measures to improve access to quality education without gender discrimination (Switzerland);**

136.89 **Continue strengthening national democratic institutions (Nepal);**

136.90 **Pay particular attention to the human rights related issues, particularly by encouraging effective participation of women in political life (Morocco);**

136.91 **Seek international cooperation in order to improve its electoral system, prior to the presidential and provincial elections due in 2014, and the election due in 2015 (Brazil);**

136.92 **Take necessary measures to increase the percentage of women in decision-making positions (Ethiopia);**

136.93 **Ensure the inclusion of provisions relating to equality between men and women in the Constitution and the legislative system, and continue to pursue the implementation of effective measures to combat gender inequality (Chile);**

136.94 **Advance in the application of legislative measures aiming at the prohibition of discrimination in education, in particular in the rural areas, with a view to promoting gender equality (Chile);**

136.95 **Strengthen efforts on the fight of discrimination against women and girls, particularly regarding access to education, health, justice and participation (Ecuador);**

136.96 **Improve national legislation to ensure equality between men and women based on the non-discrimination principle (Russian Federation);**

136.97 **In the light of the current reform of the Criminal Code and the Code on Criminal Proceedings, do not include any discriminatory provisions against women (Spain);**

136.98 **Ensure that women and women's rights advocates participate in every stage of negotiations concerning a political settlement to the conflict and that the rights of women and girls are respected in any eventual settlement (Canada);**

136.99 **Guarantee women's representation in all decision-making levels in line with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 and related resolutions as well as on the Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Finland);**

136.100 **Establish comprehensive legislation to help law enforcement officials identify cases of early and forced marriages and organize awareness-raising campaigns in that regard (Croatia);**

136.101 **Continue its efforts to eliminate violence against women in line with the relevant recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Latvia);**

136.102 **Take all possible measures to ensure the protection of and respect for the rights of women and children at legal and practical level (Switzerland);**

136.103 **Take measures to ensure that many individuals who are guilty of violence are effectively convicted and put an end to the impunity from which they benefit too often (Belgium);**

136.104 **Investigate all allegations of mistreatment or abuse of detainees by the National Directorate of Security, the Afghan National Police and the Afghan Local Police and ensure that those who commit such acts are held accountable (Canada);**

136.105 **Thoroughly investigate allegations of human rights violations by members of the Afghan National Security Forces, and hold perpetrators accountable (United States of America);**

136.106 **Continue efforts aimed at putting an end to impunity, and guarantee an effective and impartial application of the legislation and court rulings, through the formal judicial system (Argentina);**

136.107 **Continue adopting measures aiming at the protection of children and youth, in particular on their right to education (Cuba);**

136.108 **Continue efforts in child rights protection and improving children's conditions, especially in the education and healthcare fields (Qatar);**

136.109 **Continue efforts in adopting required measures to ensure child care, including for disabled children, and ensure their rights in education and health (Yemen);**

136.110 **Enact measures to create safe school environments for girls and promote the right to education for girls on an equal basis with boys (Croatia);**

136.111 **Take effective measures to combat child labor and sexual exploitation of children as well as forced marriages (Germany);**

136.112 **Step-up efforts in the protection of the rights of children, including continuing its measures in combating violence against children (Malaysia);**

136.113 **Pay attention to the provision of security and protection of schools and teachers from all attacks (Kyrgyzstan);**

136.114 **Continue and strengthen its efforts to combat the illegal use of children in armed conflict (Sri Lanka);**

136.115 **Take measures to put an end to any recruitment or use of children in armed forces and groups within the police forces (France);**

136.116 **End all recruitment and use of children by military groups (Montenegro);**

136.117 **Provide demobilized children with assistance and penalize those persons responsible for military recruitment of children (Poland);**

136.118 **Continue using its sovereign right to apply the death penalty as a tool of criminal justice in accordance with proper safeguards specified under International Human Rights Law (Egypt);**

136.119 **Allow the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission to safely operate and carry out its mandate in an independent and effective manner (United States of America);**

136.120 **Substantially increase its allocation of funds to the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission in order to ensure its long-term sustainability (Denmark);**

136.121 **Adequately resource the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and design the Commissioners' nomination process in a way to ensure the A status of the Commission under the Paris Principles. (Germany);**

136.122 **Ensure the independence of the Human Rights Commission, including through providing regular budgeting for the Commission, and proceed to the immediate appointment of its members (Greece);**

136.123 **Accelerate the appointment of the members of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (Iraq);**

136.124 **Enable and support the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission to continue its work as an effective and independent institution, including a transparent selection process of Commissioners, and by adequately funding the Commission on a permanent basis (Netherlands);**

136.125 **Further support the work of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission by employing a transparent and participatory selection process for the Commission's members (New Zealand);**

136.126 **Increase and regularize the core funding of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (New Zealand);**

136.127 **Introduce transparent procedures in appointing members of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and provide sufficient financial assistance to it (Republic of Korea);**

136.128 **Commit to actions that strengthen the capacity of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) including providing adequate funding and reviewing the Law on the Structure, Duties and Mandate of the AIHRC to ensure its alignment with Paris Principles (Australia);**

136.129 **Further strengthen and provide all the appropriate means (financial and institutional) for the national organizations for defence of human rights so that they can pursue and achieve their objectives (Comoros);**

136.130 **Ensure that a framework policy to protect child rights according to international standards is adopted and a national campaign to promote awareness of child rights is undertaken (Greece);**

136.131 **Intensify its efforts to ensure full and effective implementation of the Law on Elimination of Violence against Women and implement United Nations Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security (Lithuania);**

136.132 **Set up measures to facilitate and accelerate the implementation of the law on the elimination of violence against women (Belgium);**

136.133 **Establish a strategy to implement the Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women by the creation of permanent and efficient mechanisms in order to report, investigate and publicize cases of gender violence (Brazil);**

136.134 **Take steps to fully implement the Elimination of Violence against Women Law, including by providing training and capacity-building to law enforcement officials; implementing standard, country-wide procedures to record and track complaints of violence against women; and ensuring that all allegations of violence against women are thoroughly investigated and referred to the appropriate authorities under Afghan law (Canada);**

136.135 **Ensure the full implementation of the Elimination of Violence against Women law and hold accountable police and prosecution supervisors who are not ensuring the enforcement of the law (Croatia);**

136.136 **Take measurable steps to fully implement the Elimination of Violence Against Women law, and investigate thoroughly all suspected cases of gender based violence and violence against defenders of women's rights and bring those responsible to justice (United States of America);**

136.137 **Take steps to ensure the prompt enforcement of the National Action Plan for Women of Afghanistan, the Elimination of Violence Against Women Law and its international CEDAW obligations and reject any further attempts to water down the intentions of those measures (Denmark);**

136.138 **Take all necessary measures for effective application of the 2009 law on the elimination of violence against women (France);**

136.139 **Ensure the full application of the Elimination of Violence against Women Law (Finland);**

136.140 **Ensure early presentation of the report on the implementation of the Law for the Elimination of Violence against Women, effective and nation-wide implementation of that Law and comprehensive collection of data, monitoring and evaluation to further identify weaknesses in implementation, and to ensure continuing conformity of the law for the Elimination of Violence against Women with CEDAW (Germany);**

136.141 **Reinforce the implementation of the Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women (Iceland);**

136.142 **Put in place within six months a concrete plan, covering the next two-year period, to improve implementation of the 2009 Law on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, including the measures recommended to Afghanistan by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in July 2013 (Ireland);**

136.143 **Take further steps to ensure full implementation of the Elimination of Violence against Women law also taking into account the respect for the provisions contained in international treaties that Afghanistan has signed (Italy);**

136.144 **Continue measures in eliminating discrimination against women through the implementation of its Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women (Malaysia);**

136.145 **Strengthen legislation and enforcement of the law to end violence against women and promotion and protection of human rights of women and girls (Maldives);**

136.146 **Ensure effective enforcement of the Law on Violence against Women (New Zealand);**

136.147 **Adopt measures in order to strengthen the knowledge of the Elimination of Violence against Women Law within the police and the judiciary to guarantee effective implementation of the law (Norway);**

136.148 **Step up efforts to effectively implement the Elimination of Violence against Women law and the programs outlined in the National Action Plan for Afghan Women (Philippines);**

136.149 **Implement fully the Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women and refrain from approving any new legislation which may compromise the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to which Afghanistan is party (Portugal);**

136.150 **Take action to fully implement and enforce the 2009 Elimination of Violence against Women Law (Australia);**

136.151 **Take further steps on effectively implementing the Law on Elimination of Violence against Women (Turkey);**

136.152 **Reinforce efforts to implement the Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women in order to support the establishment of specialized police and prosecutions units; to track the number of cases brought under the Law; and to investigate provinces or districts with low numbers of prosecutions (Sweden);**

136.153 **Take additional steps to ensure women's full participation in public life as well as in the peace and reconciliation process and ensure that the Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women is implemented and that all acts of violence against women are thoroughly investigated and those responsible are brought to justice (Austria);**

136.154 **Ensure closer monitoring of the implementation of the National Action Plan for Women by developing the monitoring and evaluation capacity of the Ministry of Women's Affairs and other national entities (Italy);**

136.155 **Effectively implement the legislation aimed at ensuring the realization of the rights of women and children, especially the legislation on combating domestic violence (Romania);**

136.156 **Finalize and implement a National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (Australia);**

136.157 **Adopt additional measures to ensure the effective application of the law to eliminate violence against women and to ensure the protection of women's rights (Chile);**

136.158 **Continue with actions aimed at eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls (Ecuador);**

136.159 **Increase continued efforts to eliminate violence against women and children in the country (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

136.160 **Take effective measures to prevent child and forced marriages (Poland);**

136.161 **Put forward its utmost efforts to abolish practices such as honor killing, early forced marriage and domestic violence both at the legal and policy levels (Republic of Korea);**

136.162 **Address more effectively cases of gender-based violence including by their proper and effective investigations and adequate prosecution of perpetrators (Slovakia);**

136.163 **Strengthen efforts in eliminating discrimination and violence against women, also by raising the awareness of the general public and training officials in judiciary and law enforcement at all levels that will include human rights of women (Slovenia);**

136.164 **Increase all kinds of measures to effectively combat impunity regarding acts of violence against women, as well as to prevent, investigate, prosecute and sanction the acts of violence perpetrated against women by State agents and other persons (Uruguay);**

136.165 **Complete the exercises in strengthening national legal and administrative frameworks in order for them to be in line with human rights principles by fully implementing those frameworks, in particular the 2009 law on the Elimination of Violence against Women and the inclusion of restorative justice principles in the 2004 Juvenile Code (Indonesia);**

136.166 **Review its national legislation in order to ensure its full alignment with obligations under the Rome Statute, in particular by incorporating provisions enabling cooperation with the Court (Latvia);**

136.167 **Accelerate the process of aligning its national legislation with the provisions of the Rome Statute (Tunisia);**

136.168 **Fully align the national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Austria);**

136.169 **Take immediate measures in order to comply fully with the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and implement the Action Plan to end the recruitment and use of children, signed with the United Nations in 2011 (Lithuania);**

136.170 **Cultivate and develop at local as well as national level a culture of human rights through appropriate programmes increasingly adapted to the cultural context in the framework of formal and non-formal education (Comoros);**

136.171 **Develop and strengthen international human rights standards among Afghan citizens (Kuwait);**

136.172 **Strengthen coordination between national and international institutions working in the area of human rights with a view to effectively conduct and launch human rights trainings provided to the government agencies' staff (Saudi Arabia);**

136.173 **Put priority attention to issues regarding education and training in the human rights area for the officials of the law enforcement bodies, judiciary and of investigative bodies (Tajikistan);**

136.174 **Develop an academic curriculum on the basis of human rights standards, values and international conventions (Turkmenistan);**

136.175 **Further provide training to security and law enforcement organs on the protection and promotion of human rights (Ethiopia);**

136.176 **Step up its national capacity-building programs for law enforcement officials, including through international cooperation (Egypt);**

136.177 **Continue efforts in human rights awareness raising, especially within the law enforcement sector (Qatar);**

136.178 **Ensure gender equity in higher education institutions of the country by increasing the number of female students (Bhutan).**

137. **The following recommendations will be examined by Afghanistan, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the twenty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council in June 2014:**

137.1. **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Egypt);**

137.2 **Ratify the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (Spain);**

137.3 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, and Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Tunisia);**

137.4 **Uphold efforts aimed at the practical implementation of its human rights commitments and accede to the optional protocols of the human rights conventions to which it is a party (Hungary);**

137.5 **Enhance cooperation with the Human Rights Council by issuing a standing invitation to special procedures and accepting all visits requested by mandate holders (Hungary);**

137.6 **Strengthen its cooperation with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council by responding positively to the pending visit requests and eventually consider extending a standing invitation to all the special procedures mandate holders (Latvia);**

137.7 **Respond positively to requests to visit made by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, it causes and consequences (Mexico);**

137.8 **Respond positively to requests to visit made by the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Mexico);**

137.9 **Expand cooperation with the special procedures, including with the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment and punishment, and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences (Tajikistan);**

137.10 **Consider incorporating the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measure for Women Offenders, otherwise known as the "Bangkok Rules", as a part of its programme to enhance the conditions of women detainees in prison (Thailand);**

137.11 **Adopt measures to combat cases of torture and ill-treatment in the detention centres (France);**

137.12 **Address shortcomings identified by international election monitors and ensure that the election and campaigning ahead of them, including the access of candidates to the media, are transparent, free and fair (Czech Republic);**

137.13 **Repeal article 398 of the Afghan Penal Code with a view to ensuring full accountability for the perpetrators of so-called honour killings (Poland);**

137.14 **Repeal article 398 of the Penal Code which gives perpetrators of honour killings legal concessions (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

137.15 **Amend the National Reconciliation, General Amnesty and National Stability Law to allow for prosecutions of certain crimes, such as genocide, war crimes and torture (Sweden);**

137.16 **Reinforce and consolidate recovery of the country and national reconciliation and remedy past human rights violations through the establishment of a transitional justice strategy (Morocco);**

137.17 **Decisively take issue with human rights violations and war crimes of the past decades with a view to bringing the perpetrators to justice (Germany);**

137.18 **Ensure a national mechanism for transitional justice and national reconciliation, starting with the immediate release of the conflict mapping report of the Human Rights Commission and ensure adequate security assistance for its staff (Netherlands);**

137.19 **Implement the objectives of its 2005 Action Plan on Peace, Justice and Reconciliation and the National Priority Programme no. 6 in relation to human rights, and prosecute persons who committed grave human rights violations or war crimes (Switzerland);**

137.20 **Adhere to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Uruguay);**

137.21 **Give the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission the independence and legal authority to hold to account perpetrators of detainee mistreatment (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

137.22 **Accede to and fully implement the Optional Protocol to CEDAW, amend laws that discriminate against women, and facilitate a broad public discussion on women's rights and equality (Czech Republic);**

137.23 **Ratify the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court and take all necessary measures for their**

implementation as well as the preservation of the integrity of the Rome Statute (France);

137.24 Ratify the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute and the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court (Estonia);

137.25 Accede to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court (Slovakia);

137.26 Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (France);

137.27 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and take policy measures to prevent torture and ill treatment (Estonia);

137.28 Ratify the Optional Protocol to CAT, and by virtue of the latter, establish a national preventive mechanism (Switzerland);

137.29 Accede to the Optional Protocol to CAT and implement measures ensuring prompt and impartial investigation of ill-treatment and torture of detainees and strengthen the accountability mechanisms for police and armed forces (Czech Republic);

137.30 Ratify the two optional protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) as well as the Optional Protocol to CAT and make the necessary declarations under article 41 of ICCPR and articles 20, 21 and 22 of CAT (Austria);

137.31 Takes steps to ensure proper and widespread enforcement of article 29 of the Constitution and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Denmark);

137.32 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Algeria);

137.33 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Portugal);

137.34 Consider becoming a party to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Thailand).

138. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Afghanistan:

138.1 Re-establish the moratorium on executions and beyond that, consider final abolition of the death penalty (France);

138.2 Consider adoption of a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Italy);

138.3 Establish an immediate official moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to abolishing it (Montenegro);

138.4 Establish a moratorium in the use of the death penalty as a preliminary step to its definitive abolition (Spain);

138.5 Establish a moratorium on executions with a view to removing the death penalty from its criminal statutes and ratifying the Second Optional

Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);

138.6 **Reintroduce a moratorium on executions with a view to the abolition of capital punishment (Czech Republic);**

138.7 **Re-establish a moratorium to executions, with a view to the final abolition of the death penalty, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR (Uruguay);**

138.8 **Consider a formal moratorium on executions of all persons condemned with the death penalty and examine the possibility of abolishing the death penalty (Argentina);**

138.9 **Reintroduce the moratorium on executions as a first step towards the abolition of the death penalty (Sweden);**

138.10 **Abolish the practice of prosecuting women for "moral crimes" (New Zealand);**

138.11 **Ensure non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity and repeal the provisions of the penal code which criminalise sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex (Norway);**

138.12 **Put an end to the practice of criminal prosecutions for moral crimes against women who have fled their home (France).**

139. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

[English only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Afghanistan was headed by His Excellency Judge Mohammad Hashimzai, composed of:

- Mrs. Mojgan Mustafawi, Deputy Minister for Women Affairs
- Mr. Wasil Noor Mohmand, Deputy Minister Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled
- Dr. Najia Tareq, Deputy Minister Public Health
- Mr. Mohammad Osman Babori, Deputy Minister Higher Education
- Dr. Nanguyalai Tarzi, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva
- Mrs. Khujasta Fana Ibrahimkhel, Director of Human Rights & Women's International Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Atiqullah Murad, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Afghanistan
- Mr. Sher Alam Abasi, Desk Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Saedullah Reshteen, Desk Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Mohamed Raha, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Afghanistan.

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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Chile

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its eighteenth session from 27 January to 7 February 2014. The review of Chile was held at the 3rd meeting on 28 January 2014. The delegation of Chile was headed by Bruno Baranda, Minister of Social Development. At its 10th meeting held on 31 January 2014, the Working Group adopted the report on Chile.

2. On 15 January 2014, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Chile: Cuba, Montenegro and Pakistan.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Chile:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/18/CHL/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/18/CHL/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/18/CHL/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Slovenia, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Chile through the troika. Those questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation considered that the universal periodic review marked a major step forward towards the universalization of human rights. Chile attributed a high priority to the implementation of its recommendations. The national report showed the progress that had been made in fulfilment of the recommendations received in 2009.

6. Various ministries and public services participated in the preparation of the report. Those institutions were also represented on the high-level delegation that travelled to Geneva for the review.

7. Meetings were also held with the national institute of human rights and with representatives of civil society for the preparation of the report. OHCHR also provided valuable assistance.

8. In 2009, Chile had accepted 71 recommendations. Most of them had been implemented or were under implementation. Even though there were remaining challenges, the second report focused on the efforts made by the State to modernize and strengthen the human rights institutional infrastructure.

9. The delegation highlighted some of the most relevant human rights measures undertaken in the last four and a half years, which were covered by the recommendations accepted in 2009.

10. In 2009, Chile had ratified the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (CPED). The National Institute for Human Rights

had also been established in 2009. It had been accorded "A" status in 2012, constituting the backbone of the institutional improvement of human rights in Chile.

11. Regarding discrimination, Law No. 20.609 had entered into force in July 2012. The law punished all forms of discrimination based, inter alia, on grounds of race, nationality, language, political opinion, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and disability.

12. Chile was aware of its historical debt towards its indigenous peoples. The Government had therefore established a policy in 2010 to open a dialogue with the nine indigenous peoples present in the country, in order to ensure their access to development opportunities, with full respect for their rights, traditions, identity and culture. The need for a comprehensive and inclusive approach had led to the creation of the Council of Ministers for Indigenous Affairs.

13. The implementation of international Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 169 (1989) concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries had deepened the commitment to indigenous communities regarding participation and involvement. Since its entry into force, more than 43 consultations had been carried out on matters related to draft legislation, administrative measures and investment projects. One of the most relevant consultations had involved discussion of the procedure and stages of future consultations. During nearly three years, over 300 workshops, involving a direct dialogue between government authorities and indigenous leaders, had been conducted. Having established the new consultation procedure, the Government would apply this mechanism in relation to three relevant issues: the constitutional recognition of the indigenous peoples, the creation of a council representing them and the design of a new institutional framework for a more efficient implementation of public policies regarding them.

14. During the examination, the delegation acknowledged the questions put forward by various countries, which would be answered during the course of the review.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

15. During the interactive dialogue, 84 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

16. The Congo applauded the strengthening of the institutional and legal framework for the protection and promotion of human rights, in particular the creation of a national human rights institution, and the adoption of the act on trafficking in persons. It made a recommendation.

17. Croatia asked Chile to share additional information on the national health-care system for transgender persons. It also asked about the training of the police on human rights and in what way that had contributed to the promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples.

18. Cuba highlighted efforts to eliminate discrimination, particularly Law No. 20.609. It was concerned at the increased use of force by the police during peaceful demonstrations and at the negative effects of the anti-terrorist law on the rights of indigenous peoples. Cuba made recommendations.

19. Cyprus noted reports of inappropriate use of anti-riot weapons by the police during demonstrations. It inquired about the measures taken to ensure a civilian investigation of alleged human rights abuses by the police. Cyprus made a recommendation.

20. The Czech Republic commended Chile for terminating the jurisdiction of the military courts over civilians, as recommended at the last review. It made recommendations.

21. Mauritania commended all the efforts by Chile to enhance the role of its human rights institutions and the implementation of various initiatives designed to promote and protect human rights. Mauritania noted the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights and the adoption of the appropriate measures to prohibit all forms of discrimination against women.

22. Ecuador acknowledged the efforts to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities, refugees and older persons. It congratulated Chile for promoting the integration of migrant workers and their access to social security. Ecuador made recommendations.

23. Egypt noted the extensive consultations held during the preparation of the report and the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights as an independent legal body. It made recommendations.

24. Estonia welcomed the incentives to raise the participation of women in political life. It was, however, concerned about the criminalization of abortion. It encouraged Chile to continue its efforts to ensure the rights of the child and of indigenous peoples. It made recommendations.

25. Ethiopia welcomed the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights and commended the active participation of Chile in the Human Rights Council. It appreciated the measures taken to tackle human trafficking and promote and protect the rights of migrants. It made recommendations.

26. Finland asked what action had been taken, or was planned, to legalize abortion, at least in cases where the life of the woman was in danger, or the pregnancy was the consequence of sexual abuse of a child or rape. Finland made recommendations.

27. France welcomed the implementation by Chile of most of the recommendations made in the first cycle and the ratification of CPED. France made recommendations.

28. Germany welcomed progress towards the implementation of the recommendations made during the first cycle, but expressed concern regarding the implementation of human rights standards in certain areas. Germany made recommendations.

29. Ghana noted that the report had been prepared through an open and consultative process and encouraged Chile to address the remaining challenges so as to ensure respect for human rights and the rule of law. It made a recommendation.

30. Greece requested further information on the results of measures taken to ensure that persons with disabilities enjoyed equal opportunities and social inclusion, and on the restitution of lands belonging to indigenous peoples. Greece made recommendations.

31. Guatemala welcomed the anti-discrimination law and the law criminalizing trafficking in persons. It appreciated the policy on the integration of migrants. Guatemala requested information about the establishment of the Council of Ministers on Indigenous Affairs. It made a recommendation.

32. The Holy See congratulated Chile on its commitment to the defence of human rights. It welcomed the implementation of various programmes to eradicate child labour and to promote access to social security and education. The Holy See made recommendations.

33. Honduras praised the actions taken by Chile to combat violence against children, including child labour and the commercial sexual exploitation of children, and the amendment to the regulations of the act on adolescent criminal responsibility. Honduras made recommendations.

34. Hungary was concerned that national legislation was not yet fully aligned with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and that corporal punishment was not fully prohibited. It requested details on how and when the Government intended to address

the problem of the lack of policies on the elimination of child labour. Hungary made recommendations.

35. Indonesia appreciated the tireless efforts made by Chile to promote and protect human rights and in particular to increase the protection of women, but it also believed that those efforts could be further strengthened. It made recommendations.

36. The Islamic Republic of Iran thanked Chile for the information concerning the implementation of the previous recommendations but expressed concern at a number of issues requiring clarification. It made recommendations.

37. Iraq welcomed the ratification of CPED and the introduction of the act on the protection of refugees. It commended measures to combat discrimination and to enhance the participation of citizens in public administration. Iraq made a recommendation.

38. Ireland was concerned about inconsistencies between the legal framework for, and the monitoring in practice of, employment conditions for domestic workers. It applauded efforts to combat domestic violence. It made recommendations.

39. Italy welcomed the adoption of the act on trafficking in persons and amendments to the Penal Code concerning domestic violence. It asked whether measures regarding the legal recognition of transgender persons were envisaged. Italy made recommendations.

40. Jordan commended ongoing efforts to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, particularly through the adoption of an act on combating discrimination, and appreciated the steps taken to strengthen the institutional framework. Jordan made recommendations.

41. Libya welcomed the report and appreciated all the efforts made and initiatives undertaken, including the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights. It urged Chile to take steps to organize awareness-raising campaigns on human rights.

42. Liechtenstein acknowledged the efforts made to end discrimination against women and to promote women's rights, and the commitment to international justice. It noted that the corporal punishment of children remained lawful in the home and in care institutions. It made recommendations.

43. Madagascar welcomed the creation of the National Institute for Human Rights, the ratification of the Statute of Rome and of CPED. It also noted the progress made by Chile in several fields, including the combat against all forms of discrimination, torture and poverty, the protection of vulnerable groups, indigenous peoples, women and children. Madagascar made recommendations.

44. Malaysia commended Chile for strengthening its institutional and legislative framework, for establishing a national human rights institution in 2009, for the progress made in improving women's rights and for the entering into force of legislation on trafficking in persons in 2011. Malaysia made recommendations.

45. Djibouti congratulated Chile for its permanent engagement in all human rights and for having implemented most of the recommendations received during the first cycle. Djibouti made recommendations.

46. Mexico applauded efforts to prepare for the review, which had included civil society. It recognized the progress that had been made regarding the application of ILO Convention No. 169 and the structures set up to strengthen the participation of indigenous peoples in public life. Mexico made recommendations.

47. Montenegro acknowledged the commitment to improving the situation of indigenous people through, inter alia, programmes for health care and education for indigenous women. Montenegro asked for information concerning activities to promote inclusiveness and the participation of vulnerable groups, whether the Government intended

to re-examine the definition of abortion as a criminal offence and about the abolition of the death penalty for all crimes. Montenegro made recommendations.

48. Morocco requested further information on the bill on the rights of migrants and on its added value in relation to existing legislation and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families. It commended Chile for establishing a national human rights institution. Morocco made recommendations.

49. The Netherlands welcomed the efforts made by Chile to promote equal rights for persons belonging to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender groups. It hoped that the universal periodic review would assist the Government to promote human rights further. The Netherlands made recommendations.

50. Nicaragua praised the adoption of the acts on discrimination and on civic participation. It recognized progress on gender equality and urged Chile to incorporate recommendations made at the current review into its plan on equal opportunities. Nicaragua made recommendations.

51. Norway encouraged Chile to strengthen its institutional framework to address discrimination. It expressed concern at reports of disproportionate police violence towards minors and members of the indigenous population during social protests, including sexual abuse. Norway made recommendations.

52. Oman commended the increased numbers of women in parliament and in employment. It noted measures to protect children from violence and the introduction of an act on the social inclusion of persons with disabilities. Oman made a recommendation.

53. Paraguay applauded the introduction of various public policies aimed at women, children and indigenous peoples. It expressed concern at existing gender equalities, including the burden of domestic work on women and the pay gap. Paraguay made recommendations.

54. Peru applauded the creation of the National Institute for Human Rights, the adoption of the act on discrimination and the increase in resources allocated to the education sector. Peru made recommendations.

55. The Philippines welcomed the proposal to create the office of the undersecretary for human rights and acknowledged the increasing political participation of women and the extensive consultation process that had been held with indigenous peoples. The Philippines made recommendations.

56. Poland appreciated efforts undertaken to comply with the recommendations accepted during the first cycle, in particular the creation of the National Institute for Human Rights. Poland made recommendations.

57. Portugal welcomed the standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders and the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights. It applauded the ratification of the Rome Statute and the signature of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure. Portugal made recommendations.

58. The Republic of Moldova encouraged Chile to expedite the establishment of the office of the undersecretary for human rights, with a view to adopting a national human rights plan. It made recommendations.

59. Romania commended Chile on its standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders. It requested further details on the potential prosecutions of those responsible for serious human rights violations during the dictatorship. Romania made recommendations.

60. The Russian Federation noted the amendments made to legislation, in particular regarding the protection of children and the fight against discrimination. It expressed concern at the continued trafficking in persons, including for the sale of organs. The Russian Federation made recommendations.

61. Singapore noted the progress made in combating domestic violence through the enactment of laws and the establishment of re-education centres for men and shelters for victims. Singapore welcomed the achievements in the field of education, with the enrolment rate for basic education reaching 94 per cent in rural areas. Singapore made recommendations.

62. Slovakia encouraged Chile to accelerate preparation of the national human rights plan. It welcomed the developments regarding the rights of women and noted that further efforts were needed to address inequalities, such as unequal employment opportunities, effectively. Slovakia made recommendations.

63. Slovenia encouraged ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (OP-CEDAW). It expressed concern that abortion was outlawed under all circumstances and noted that there was significant prison overcrowding and a lack of prison infrastructure. Slovenia made recommendations.

64. South Sudan noted with appreciation the excellent cooperation between the Chilean police and the International Committee of the Red Cross and encouraged the promotion of a human rights culture for other law enforcement institutions. It made a recommendation.

65. Spain congratulated Chile on being a party to the core international human rights instruments and on ratifying CPED. It made recommendations.

66. Sri Lanka noted the efforts made by Chile to achieve gender equality, promote the rights of women and combat child labour and the commercial sexual exploitation of children. It highlighted the entry into force of the Anti-Discrimination Act in 2012. Sri Lanka made recommendations.

67. The State of Palestine welcomed the determination of Chile to improve the quality of life of its people and foster a culture of respect and non-discrimination. It commended the progress made in education, including improving the quality and making primary education compulsory. It made recommendations.

68. Sweden noted that the criminalization of abortion in all circumstances was still in place. Sweden welcomed advances in promoting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex rights, particularly the adoption of the Anti-Discrimination Act. It requested more information on the steps taken to ensure the implementation of current anti-discrimination legislation. Sweden made recommendations.

69. Switzerland noted with satisfaction the progress achieved in combating discrimination and violence against women, in reforming the military justice system and in amendments to anti-terrorist legislation. It was concerned that abortion was criminalized under all circumstances. It made recommendations.

70. Thailand commended the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights and progress in improving the situation of indigenous peoples. Noting that the Anti-Discrimination Act provided protection for sexual orientation and gender identity, it encouraged a further amendment to include financial compensation for victims. Thailand made recommendations.

71. Trinidad and Tobago commended Chile for the establishment in 2009 of the National Institute for Human Rights, the ratification of the Statute of Rome, the entry into force of Law No. 20.609 in 2012 addressing discrimination, the efforts undertaken for the empowerment of women and the creation of a human rights department within the Carabineros de Chile police force. Trinidad and Tobago made recommendations.

72. Tunisia noted the considerable progress made, notably the adoption of the Anti-Discrimination Act, the Civic Participation Act and the Equal Opportunities Plan 2011–2020, and the creation of a human rights department within the Carabineros de Chile. It made recommendations.

73. Turkey commended the efforts made by Chile to establish the office of the undersecretary for human rights and the steps taken towards gender equality. It asked what measures had been taken to increase the participation of women in the work force. It made a recommendation.

74. The United Arab Emirates welcomed the progress made in the protection of the human rights of women and children. It sought clarification on the role played by civil society groups. It made a recommendation.

75. The United Kingdom was concerned at reports of excessive use of violence by the police during social protests. It encouraged consultations with indigenous groups on potential development projects directly affecting them. It made recommendations.

76. The United States of America recognized the progress in addressing domestic violence, including awareness-raising programmes, but remained concerned at its high rate of occurrence. It asked how Chile was working to fulfil its international commitments concerning indigenous peoples. It made recommendations.

77. Uruguay welcomed advances in human rights, such as the ratification of CPED and the Rome Statute, and the adoption of the Anti-Discrimination Act, the Civic Participation Act, new legislation on gender violence and policies on older persons. It made recommendations.

78. Uzbekistan highlighted the concern of the treaty bodies over the rights of indigenous peoples. It also highlighted the low level of political participation by women and their literacy rates, prison overcrowding and the excessive use of force in prisons. It made recommendations.

79. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights. It urged Chile to give priority to indigenous peoples and vulnerable groups, including through implementation of ILO Convention No. 169, and to continue its efforts to reduce inequalities and ensure social inclusion.

80. Viet Nam noted with interest the encouraging human rights achievements in Chile, such as the ratification of most of the core human rights treaties, the adoption of the Anti-Discrimination Act and the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights. It made recommendations.

81. Yemen welcomed the efforts made by Chile to promote the international human rights instruments and the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights in keeping with the Principles relating to the Status of National Institutions (Paris Principles). It made a recommendation.

82. Afghanistan was pleased by the measures for the reintegration of young people, especially the implementation of the so-called "Plan for youth", and by the positive steps taken regarding the rights to health and education for migrants. Afghanistan made a recommendation.

83. Algeria welcomed the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights in keeping with the Paris Principles and the measures taken to improve the situation of indigenous peoples, especially in the areas of employment and the empowerment of women. It made recommendations.

84. Angola welcomed the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights and the intention of the Government to harmonize national legislation with international human

rights instruments. It welcomed the steps taken that were conducive to improving the lives of indigenous peoples and vulnerable groups. It made a recommendation.

85. Argentina commended the ratification of CPED, the efforts to establish the office of the undersecretary for human rights and the new anti-discrimination legislation. It asked Chile to share its good practice on policies for older persons with the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons. It made recommendations.

86. Australia stressed the importance of ongoing human rights education and accountability measures to address allegations of the excessive use of force by the security forces. It encouraged continued efforts to address discrimination and inequality. It made recommendations.

87. Austria asked how Chile intended to address prison overcrowding, mistreatment, unjustified punishment and the lack of an effective youth protection programme, and for information on the status of the draft law on the protection of minors. It made recommendations.

88. Azerbaijan noted the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights in accordance with the Paris Principles. It shared the concerns of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples regarding the rights of indigenous peoples, including the purchase of their ancestral lands. It made recommendations.

89. Bangladesh asked about the actions taken to implement recommendations 60 and 62 of the first cycle to address socioeconomic disparities between the indigenous and non-indigenous populations and to increase the political representation of indigenous peoples. Bangladesh made recommendations.

90. Belarus welcomed the steps taken to promote and protect human rights, the rule of law, socioeconomic rights and non-discrimination. It noted efforts to promote the rights of indigenous peoples and improve their socioeconomic situation. Belarus made recommendations.

91. Belgium congratulated Chile on the adoption of the Anti-Discrimination Act. It had several concerns, especially regarding the situation of women and girls, impunity, torture and enforced disappearances. Belgium made recommendations.

92. Bhutan noted the substantive increase in the budget for the education sector, focusing on the improvement in standards of learning and educational facilities in rural areas. Bhutan also noted the work carried out by the National Service for Women in ensuring the protection of women against domestic violence and in combating child labour. Bhutan made a recommendation.

93. The Plurinational State of Bolivia made recommendations in the constructive spirit that characterizes the universal periodic review.

94. Bosnia and Herzegovina commended the adoption of new human rights legislation and welcomed the establishment of the National Institute for Human Rights in accordance with the Paris Principles. It requested more information on the mandate, operation and financing of that body.

95. Brazil commended the ratification of CPED and encouraged Chile to ratify OP-CEDAW. It welcomed the entry into force of new legislation on trafficking in persons, the rights of refugees and persons with disabilities. Brazil made recommendations.

96. Bulgaria took positive note of the introduction of new measures on equality aimed at prohibiting all forms of discrimination against women, although a definition of discrimination against women in accordance with CEDAW was still missing. Bulgaria made a recommendation.

97. Canada commended recent amendments to the Penal Code to facilitate prosecutions of violence against women. It requested information on other specific measures that would be taken to prevent violence against women or to assist victims. It made recommendations.

98. China commended the steps taken to combat discrimination and strengthen judicial protection, and the adoption of legislation to raise the status of women, protect the rights of older persons and improve the socioeconomic rights of indigenous peoples. It made recommendations.

99. Colombia commended Chile on the strengthening of its institutions, the ratification of the Rome Statute, the adoption of the Anti-Discrimination Act and its role in the Human Rights Council. It made recommendations.

100. The Delegation of Chile emphasized that the new anti-discrimination legislation (Law No. 20.609) was a milestone and the first regulation explicitly punishing acts of discrimination. In compliance with this law, a non-discrimination policy had been recently approved in order to protect and promote human rights without any discrimination. Its implementation was safeguarded by the Observatory on Citizen Participation and Non-Discrimination.

101. The Human Rights Department of the police (*Carabineros*) had been set up in 2011 with the aim of, inter alia, promoting human rights within its domain and contributing to training on human rights. The Department had updated several police protocols on the use of force and firearms. In 2013, the unit for education, doctrine and the history of the police had implemented a new human rights training programme, in accordance with relevant international standards, on the use of force and the protection of vulnerable groups, including the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender population.

102. In 2012, the tactics of the Carabineros for the maintenance of public order had been updated and a new model for the use of force established, based on the universal principles of legality, necessity and proportionality. In 2013, several protocols on police intervention had been reviewed in order to protect the right to freedom of assembly.

103. The National Institute for Human Rights had supervised interventions by the police during public demonstrations, including the conditions of detention inside police vehicles and in 2012 the Internal Affairs Department had been placed under the General Inspectorate, with the aim of strengthening the internal supervision and control of the Carabineros. Likewise, the people affected by police behaviour had been afforded the possibility to access an Internet complaints system.

104. The delegation reiterated its permanent commitment to human rights when applying the anti-terrorist legislation (Law No. 18.314), which had been amended numerous times since the return to democracy, in order to restrict its scope of application. The delegation emphasized that this legislation had been implemented without any discrimination.

105. Turning to criminal legislation, the delegation stressed that a new draft of the Penal Code would soon be presented to Parliament, which would involve the derogation of article 373 of the Code.

106. The delegation reported that, in 2010, an amendment to the military justice system had been adopted, limiting the scope of military jurisdiction, so that only military personnel could be brought to trial by military courts. It noted, however, that this was an ongoing review process.

107. Regarding the right to land of indigenous peoples, in the last three years, the Government had returned more than 49,360 hectares to indigenous peoples, estimating that 100 per cent of the land currently being claimed would be returned to them within the next six years. The Government had focused not only on the restitution of land as such, but had also complemented it with a productive development strategy, by providing financial and

human resources and technical assistance, and in particular investing resources in water management.

108. Despite the fact that a full consensus had not been reached on certain areas of the consultation process with indigenous peoples, the relevant aspects of the procedures, subjects, stages and deadlines had been agreed. The new regulation would enter into force soon, which was a step forward. It would be different to the current regulation, in that it would not only be the right to land which would be the subject of consultations. Consequently, indigenous people, whose traditions, customs and religious, cultural and spiritual practices had been affected, would also be entitled to a prior consultation process. Likewise, the current regulation on the assessment of environmental impact – in force since December 2013 – also incorporated special provisions for consultation when an investment project had an impact on indigenous peoples, rather than on the environment.

109. The delegation noted that the Amnesty Law, although still formally in force, had not been used by the courts since 1998. Currently, more than 1,000 legal proceedings pertaining to human rights violations were ongoing and the Ministry of Interior was a prosecutorial party in 800 of them. Additionally, since 2012, the Supreme Court had decided to stay the use of the statute of limitations in cases of serious, massive and systematic violations of human rights perpetrated during the dictatorship.

110. The Government had established several programmes of reparation for victims who qualified for them: inter alia, pensions for the spouses, mothers, fathers or children of victims, bonuses and scholarships for the children of victims and exemption from compulsory military service. Also, on the fortieth anniversary of the military coup, the Government had ordered the closure of a detention centre used exclusively by former members of the security forces.

111. In recent decades, Chile had become a major destination of international migration. To facilitate the integration of the immigrant community, the Government had encouraged a process of regularization.

112. Moreover, in 2010 the Refugee Protection Act had been adopted, incorporating the international commitments undertaken by Chile. In 2011, a law defining the smuggling of migrants and trafficking of persons as a crime had been enacted and in 2013, a bill on immigration had been sent to parliament after an extensive process of consultation between the State and civil society. That bill, which should be adopted without delay, would replace the Immigration Act of 1975.

113. Chile was about to establish the office of the undersecretary for human rights. A bill was in its second legislative process in the Chamber of Deputies. Once established, the office would be able to draw up a national human rights plan, fulfilling that commitment.

114. As for the national mechanism for the prevention of torture, the Government had been working with the National Institute for Human Rights in order to implement it as swiftly as possible. In addition, the draft of the Penal Code that the executive branch would submit in March 2014 would incorporate a definition of the crime of torture.

115. The fight against domestic violence had been a priority for Chile. In 2010, the law that defines femicide as a crime had been approved, increasing the penalties for former spouses and partners of the victims. The programme "*Chile acoge*" ("Chile embraces") sought to reduce violence against women by paying more attention to the victims and to prevention in children and adolescents. It also included the rehabilitation of men who used violence against their partners and the protection of women who suffered sexual violence or had been victims of the crime of trafficking. In this context, the number of femicides had been reduced from 57 cases in 2008 to 34 in 2012 and 40 in 2013.

116. The State promoted the reconciliation of family obligations and work responsibilities, as well as the sharing of responsibilities between parents in the care of children, so that women would have more opportunities for work and personal

development. Some of the policies worth mentioning that had been implemented were the extension of postnatal leave from three to six months, the law establishing the shared care of children and the increased coverage of day care and preschool education by over 100,000 places. In addition, 54 per cent of the 840,000 jobs created in the past four years were for women; the rate of female labour participation had reached 48 per cent and the female unemployment rate had decreased to a historical low, from 10.3 per cent in 2009 to 6.2 per cent in 2013.

117. Regarding abortion, the Constitution protected the life of the unborn, so that any action to terminate a pregnancy was prohibited and punished. However, in exceptional instances, where the mother's life was in danger, the law allowed physicians to perform treatments that were necessary to save the life of the mother, even when the life or integrity of the child was affected as a necessary and secondary consequence.

118. Chile had promoted various initiatives to improve conditions for persons deprived of their liberty. A first step was a plan of 11 measures, which included a significant investment to address problems of infrastructure, security, housing and health. Hence, overcrowding in prisons had been reduced to 25 per cent in 2013. Since 8.7 per cent of the prison population was female, the Government had developed a prison policy with a gender perspective.

119. The delegation concluded by thanking those delegations which had intervened; opinions, recommendations and constructive criticism were invaluable for assessing progress and challenges in the promotion and protection of human rights in Chile. The delegation sought to answer as many questions as possible and pledged to respond in writing to those that had not been addressed for lack of time.

120. Chile had made progress in building a culture of respect, promotion and protection of human rights but major challenges remained. The Government took them seriously and, in this context, acknowledged the importance of the universal periodic review mechanism and the recommendations derived from it, being aware that they would contribute to a more just and equitable society.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

121. **The following recommendations will be examined by Chile which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the twenty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council in June 2014:**

121.1. **Consider withdrawing its reservations to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines);**

121.2. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (France);**

121.3. **Proceed with the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Portugal);**

121.4. **Set a date for ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Ireland);**

** Conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

121.5. **Follow through with the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women now that a bill is under review following recommendations made during the previous UPR session (Netherlands);**

121.6. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Austria, Belgium, Madagascar, Paraguay, Slovakia), signed by Chile in 1999 (Spain);**

121.7. **Accelerate the legislative process for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Uruguay);**

121.8. **Ratify ILO Convention No. 189 (Paraguay);**

121.9. **Consider ratifying ILO Convention No. 189 (Philippines);**

121.10. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Madagascar);**

121.11. **Consider ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Montenegro);**

121.12. **Consider ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Montenegro);**

121.13. **Accelerate the legislative process for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Uruguay);**

121.14. **Ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Estonia);**

121.15. **Ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute, if possible with a view to contributing to the activation of the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court over the crime of aggression at the beginning of 2017 (Liechtenstein);**

121.16. **Accede early to the 1968 Convention on the Non-Applicability of the Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity, without any reservations that might defeat the purpose and object of that Convention (Ghana);**

121.17. **Accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Azerbaijan);**

121.18. **Continue its efforts to promote the harmonization of national legislation with international treaties (State of Palestine);**

121.19. **Incorporate the necessary provisions into its national legislation to allow full and prompt cooperation with the international Criminal Court (Hungary);**

121.20. **Complete rapidly the process of aligning its national legislation with the provisions of the Statute of Rome (Tunisia);**

121.21. **Enact legislation bringing into force the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in Chilean legislation (Belgium);**

121.22. **Continue adapting legislation against terrorism to international standards, in particular with regard to the definition of terrorism offences and the right to a fair trial (Switzerland);**

121.23. **Strengthen the state of laws and good governance, including further capacity-building for law enforcement mechanisms and national institutions on human rights (Viet Nam);**

121.24. **Use fully the National Human Rights Institute as a fundamental piece of the comprehensive strategy for the protection of human rights (Portugal);**

121.25. **Ensure that the National Institute for Human Rights continues to accord with the Paris Principles and is sufficiently resourced to further advance human rights in Chile (Australia);**

121.26. **Accelerate steps to introduce a national preventive mechanism against torture and ensure that the definition of torture in national law aligns with the Convention against Torture (Australia);**

121.27. **Continue efforts in strengthening its institutional capacity to promote and protect human rights, in particular to accelerate the establishment of the office of the undersecretary for human rights, and to formulate a comprehensive national human rights plan of action (Indonesia);**

121.28. **Make concrete the initiatives for the establishment of the office of the undersecretary for human rights and the formulation of the national plan for human rights (Peru);**

121.29. **Expedite its efforts on enacting the legal aspect of the office of the undersecretary for human rights and prepare its national human rights plan as a next step (Turkey);**

121.30. **Establish the institution of a children's ombudsman (Estonia);**

121.31. **Introduce a bill to establish a children's ombudsman (Honduras);**

121.32. **Establish a fully independent children's ombudsman that could receive complaints from all relevant stakeholders in the event of children's rights being violated (Poland);**

121.33. **Continue its efforts to protect and guarantee the rights of all people, particularly those of children and women, with a view to securing for all citizens just and reasonable access to justice, education, and health care, respecting the importance and role of the family (Holy See);**

121.34. **Continue efforts to strengthen existing mechanisms to better protect women and children and prevent physical and sexual abuse and discrimination, including through additional training programmes to identify those most at risk of abuse (United States);**

121.35. **Continue taking the necessary measures to protect vulnerable groups, including women, children and any other minority, whose rights could be violated (Nicaragua);**

121.36. **Adopt a bill on comprehensive protection for children, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Brazil);**

121.37. **Uphold and respect the rights of the human person from the moment of conception to natural death (Holy See);**

121.38. **Increase support for the bill introducing financial initiatives for female candidates for political participation, enhance the consultations concerning the institutions of indigenous peoples and continue with the policy of reparation to victims of human rights violations (Iraq);**

121.39. **Continue current national strategies and programmes for enhancing employment opportunities, social welfare, education and the health-care**

system, especially for families in rural areas, migrants and indigenous and tribal people in Chile (Viet Nam);

121.40. **Continue to adopt measures to combat poverty (Romania);**

121.41. **Complete promptly the establishment of the office of the undersecretary for human rights and the elaboration of a national plan on human rights (Honduras);**

121.42. **Establish a national plan on human rights (Mexico);**

121.43. **Ensure the broad involvement of civil society representatives in the preparatory process of the national human rights plan (Slovakia);**

121.44. **Facilitate early passage of related legislation and ensure prompt preparation and implementation of the national human rights action plan (Australia);**

121.45. **Prepare and approve the national human rights action plan and inform Member States of its future implementation (Azerbaijan);**

121.46. **Timely launch the formulation of the national human rights action plan (China);**

121.47. **Continue its efforts to implement the plan for equal opportunities 2011–2020 (Algeria);**

121.48. **Encourage human rights training for the security forces and law enforcement officials (Morocco);**

121.49. **Continue promoting education and awareness-raising programmes on human rights for officers of the judiciary (Nicaragua);**

121.50. **Continue its cooperation with OHCHR (Romania);**

121.51. **Uphold the implementation of the Anti-Discrimination Law (Czech Republic);**

121.52. **Take steps to fully enforce the 2012 Anti-Discrimination Act and adopt concrete measures to reduce the risk of violence against vulnerable groups (Canada);**

121.53. **Strengthen public education initiatives to ensure citizens are aware of rights associated with the new Anti-Discrimination Law and continue to promote equality through appropriate legislation, policy and practice (United Kingdom);**

121.54. **Implement the recently passed Anti-Discrimination Law and take other appropriate measures to make sure that any remaining discriminatory regulations and practices are abandoned (Germany);**

121.55. **Intensify its efforts to combat discrimination (Argentina);**

121.56. **Continue to promote legislation and actions to eliminate discrimination and strengthen the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups including women, children and indigenous peoples (China);**

121.57. **Continue the current efforts to strengthen measures to counter discriminatory attitudes in society, including through public education and equality initiatives and legislative measures (Egypt);**

121.58. **Adopt a national plan to protect human rights and take the necessary measures to ensure effective protection against discrimination in various fields, particularly employment, housing, health and education (Tunisia);**

121.59. **Amend the definition of discrimination contained in Law No. 20.609 to harmonize it with the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Spain);**

121.60. **Adopt a legal definition of all forms of discrimination against women, covering direct and indirect discrimination (Bulgaria);**

121.61. **Adopt a legal definition of all forms of discrimination against women and take affirmative measures, allowing the elimination of direct and indirect discrimination (Paraguay);**

121.62. **Continue with initiatives to promote women's rights, particularly in connection with equal pay and the disbursement of retirement pensions (France);**

121.63. **Continue supporting the efforts made by SERNAM in advancing women's rights, including by providing the necessary budget allocation as well as human resources (Malaysia);**

121.64. **Continue the efforts to develop the National Service for Women and help it to implement the equal opportunities plan that would strengthen the role of women and their empowerment in society (United Arab Emirates);**

121.65. **Prevent and combat racial prejudice and take the necessary measures to ensure effective protection against discrimination, in particular in the fields of employment, housing, health and education, to ensure capacity-building and the empowerment of indigenous peoples (Congo);**

121.66. **Continue with the combat against all discrimination, in particular that regarding indigenous peoples through the implementation of the 2012 Anti-Discrimination Law (France);**

121.67. **Strengthen the relevant measures with regard to combating prejudices and negative stereotypes affecting indigenous peoples and members of minorities, and assure protection against discrimination, particularly in employment, housing, health and education (Azerbaijan);**

121.68. **Prevent and combat xenophobia and racial prejudice and assure protect n for the indigenous population against discrimination (Bangladesh);**

121.69. **Speed up the legislative procedures to adopt the new legislation on de facto unions, ensuring that its provisions fully respect the principle of non-discrimination and equality between women and men (Uruguay);**

121.70. **Develop and carry out a plan for implementation of the Anti-Discrimination Law, including positive and preventive actions. In particular, address discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation (Colombia);**

121.71. **Review its Penal Code, namely article 373, and other laws in order to prevent discrimination against LGBTI persons (Czech Republic);**

121.72. **Support new laws and measures to counter discriminatory attitudes in society and to prevent discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity by providing public education and supporting equality initiatives (Netherlands);**

121.73. **Keep working on awareness measures, including in schools, to combat discriminatory attitudes based on sexual orientation (Spain);**

121.74. **Review and reform the criminal code in order to define and penalize the offence of torture (Iran (Islamic republic of));**

121.75. **Incorporate the crime of torture into Chilean legislation, in conformity with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment (Belgium);**

121.76. **Promote, through policies and legal norms, the accountability of the police and administrative authorities resorting to the use of force during peaceful demonstrations (Cuba);**

121.77. **Continue to fully investigate all alleged cases of ill-treatment by the police, including during student demonstrations (Cyprus);**

121.78. **Address effectively the issue of excessive use of force by the police, especially during demonstrations and protests, as well as human rights violations and ill-treatment in detention (Czech Republic);**

121.79. **Further strengthen accountability for human rights violations by the police and implement a national prevention mechanism against torture (Norway);**

121.80. **Keep under review legislation pertaining to the policing of social protests and the tactics developed in response by law enforcement agencies, and ensure that any excessive use of force is investigated and prosecuted (United Kingdom);**

121.81. **Conduct investigation of reports related to crimes and violence by the police and the Carabineros against communities of indigenous peoples (Uzbekistan);**

121.82. **Continue to address allegations of excessive use of force by the police (Canada);**

121.83. **Reform the penitentiary system with the aim of ensuring humane conditions for detained persons in line with international standards (Russian Federation);**

121.84. **Continue the improvement of the detention system (Slovenia);**

121.85. **Take effective measures to bring conditions of detention in line with international standards, in particular to reduce overcrowding, to improve the situation of juveniles and women in prisons and to promote non-custodial measures (Austria);**

121.86. **Establish an effective system to address and prevent violence against women (Iran (Islamic republic of));**

121.87. **Develop a comprehensive strategy and action plan to prevent violence against women, as well as establish an effective institutional mechanism to coordinate, monitor and assess the effectiveness of the measures taken, so that all forms of violence are systematically and duly investigated and perpetrators are effectively prosecuted and punished (Poland);**

121.88. **Continue to improve its domestic system to protect women against violence and promote gender equality (Singapore);**

121.89. **Strengthen legal mechanisms to combat gender violence including the dedication of the requisite resources (Trinidad and Tobago);**

121.90. **Adopt effective measures to prevent discrimination and violence against women, including the adoption of a relevant strategy and a plan of action in this field (Uzbekistan);**

121.91. **Redouble its efforts for the protection of the rights of women, and adopt a comprehensive law on violence against women, so that all acts of**

domestic violence are investigated and their perpetrators are prosecuted (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));

121.92. **Enhance the legislation on gender and domestic violence by criminalizing sexual harassment in all its forms and by adopting a specific definition of domestic violence as a criminal offence, covering both physical and psychological violence (Italy);**

121.93. **Adopt legislation that criminalizes domestic violence and sanctions sexual harassment as a criminal offence, in accordance with the CEDAW provisions (Republic of Moldova);**

121.94. **Amend its law on domestic violence to include a specific definition on domestic violence as a criminal offence (Jordan);**

121.95. **Step up its efforts to combat domestic violence, including in preventive and awareness-raising measures and assistance for victims of domestic violence (Liechtenstein);**

121.96. **Strengthen the law on domestic violence through the development of campaigns to reduce physical, verbal and psychological aggression within the family, the establishment of mechanisms to prevent violence and protect women and children in a situation of abuse and to criminalize sexual abuse as a criminal offence (Mexico);**

121.97. **Eliminate the requirement of regularity to consider acts of domestic violence as a crime from the Law 20.066 on domestic violence (Spain);**

121.98. **Adopt a specific law to prevent and combat the sexual exploitation of children (Iran (Islamic republic of));**

121.99. **Take immediate effective legal and practical measures to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, in particular women and children, and make the offenders accountable (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

121.100. **Take measures to give adequate enforcement to Law No. 20.507, such as developing a standard operating procedure to identify victims of trafficking (Italy);**

121.101. **Adopt legislation on trafficking in persons, including for the purpose of the sale of human organs, and investigate all allegations of such crimes (Russian Federation);**

121.102. **Continue its efforts to take the necessary measures to combat the trafficking and smuggling of persons and to protect and assist the victims (Yemen);**

121.103. **Further consider the implementation of the national plan of action on trafficking in persons, which is currently being drawn up (Bhutan);**

121.104. **Further step up efforts to combat trafficking, including measures to protect the victims of human trafficking, as well as consider the possibility of inviting the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children (Belarus);**

121.105. **Continue its efforts to fight the various forms of violence against girls, boys and adolescents and the worst forms of labour and sexual exploitation for commercial purposes, through the implementation of the second national action plan 2012–2014 (Algeria);**

121.106. **Explicitly prohibit the corporal punishment of children in all settings (Hungary);**

121.107. **Explicitly prohibit the corporal punishment of children in the home and in all alternative care settings (Liechtenstein);**

121.108. **Adopt legislation prohibiting the corporal punishment of children within the family (Madagascar);**

121.109. **Guarantee that the civil courts' jurisdiction is applied also in cases of police persons (Carabineros) accused of violations of human rights (Czech Republic);**

121.110. **Reform the military justice system to exclude civilians from its jurisdiction and be used only to hear offences arising in the context of military duties (Iran (Islamic republic of));**

121.111. **Bring military justice into conformity with international standards to ensure the right to a fair trial (Switzerland);**

121.112. **Strengthen its efforts to advance organic and procedural reform of military justice with the aim of eliminating the use of the death penalty in all hypotheses comprised in the Code of Military Justice (Uruguay);**

121.113. **Establish mechanisms and procedures to facilitate access to justice for persons belonging to discriminated populations who are victims of violence that ensure the investigation and punishment of such acts, the conviction of those who perpetuate them and just reparations for the victims (Colombia);**

121.114. **Prosecute, proportionally to the severity of the offence, serious violations of human rights perpetrated under the dictatorship, which have been identified by the mechanisms of transitional justice (France);**

121.115. **Put an end to impunity for those who committed severe crimes (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

121.116. **Abrogate the Amnesty Decree-Law No. 2.191 (Italy);**

121.117. **Comply with the recommendation of the Committee against Torture to repeal the provision of Law No. 19.992 that establishes confidentiality for 50 years of information concerning the practice of torture during the dictatorship (Mexico);**

121.118. **Guarantee an effective and sufficient specialization of the stakeholders in the juvenile justice system (Egypt);**

121.119. **Take the necessary measures to establish a specialized juvenile justice system and continue efforts for reintegration of former child offenders into society, in compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Republic of Moldova);**

121.120. **Create a system of juvenile justice that includes the establishment of a children's ombudsman (Spain);**

121.121. **Preserve and promote the identity of the family, recognizing its foundation in the union of man and woman based on free consent (Holy See);**

121.122. **Protect the right to the family, being the natural and fundamental group of society based upon the stable relationship between a woman and a man (Bangladesh);**

121.123. **That all the newborn children born in Chile should have the right to Chilean nationality with a legal framework for their protection (Afghanistan);**

121.124. **Strengthen efforts to ensure better participation of women at the political level (Greece);**

121.125. **Adopt legislation on quotas requiring political parties to include a minimum proportion of women among their candidates (Jordan);**

121.126. **Strengthen women's participation in politics (Morocco);**

121.127. **Increase the participation of women in decision-making institutions (South Sudan);**

121.128. **Take steps to ensure that employment standards for domestic workers are fully implemented and respected (Ireland);**

121.129. **Take measures to bridge the wage gap between women and men (Sri Lanka);**

121.130. **Further strengthen measures to encourage the participation of women in the labour market and to ensure their right to equal remuneration (Thailand);**

121.131. **Take reform measures to ensure equality with respect to pension funds (Bangladesh);**

121.132. **Redouble its efforts to ensure access to health services in the country (Ethiopia);**

121.133. **Make sure that adequate information on family planning and the regulation of fertility is publicly available (Finland);**

121.134. **Make sure that sexual and reproductive rights are respected and protected (Belgium);**

121.135. **Initiate and promote a public debate on abortion in cases of diagnosed medical necessity and decriminalize abortion in such cases (Czech Republic);**

121.136. **Review and alter its current legislation that criminalizes the termination of pregnancies in all circumstances, including in cases of rape, incest and situations where the life of the mother is at risk (Finland);**

121.137. **Take measures to guarantee full and effective recognition of sexual and reproductive rights, in particular through the decriminalization of the voluntary interruption of pregnancy (France);**

121.138. **Take measures to allow legal and safe abortions in cases of rape or incest and in cases of risk to the woman's life or health (Germany);**

121.139. **Take steps to strengthen and protect women's sexual and reproductive rights in line with CEDAW recommendations, review the national legislation on abortion and enforce the national legislation with regard to access to birth control (Norway);**

121.140. **Review its absolute criminalization of abortion and initiate open discussions in the field of sexual and reproductive health in order to amend the respective legislation, so that abortion is no longer a criminal offence (Slovenia);**

121.141. **Make further efforts to ensure that the abortion laws are brought in line with Chile's human rights obligations (Sweden);**

121.142. **Decriminalize abortion, at least in certain cases, such as danger to the mother's life and health, the non-viability of the foetus or a pregnancy arising from rape (Switzerland);**

121.143. **Repeal all laws criminalizing women and girls for abortion and take all necessary measures to ensure safe and legal abortion in cases of rape or incest and in cases of serious danger for the health of women (Belgium);**

121.144. **Give priority attention to the further improvement of the quality and accessibility of medical care and education, particularly in rural areas (Belarus);**

121.145. **Make further efforts to provide equal access to quality education and health-care services to all, including disabled persons (Thailand);**

121.146. **Continue, in cooperation with UNESCO, to promote access to quality education for all (Singapore);**

121.147. **Continue with the efforts aimed at improving inclusion at all levels of education (Ecuador);**

121.148. **Address particularly the question of inequality in access to education, as a core aspect of the realization of the right to education (Portugal);**

121.149. **Take the necessary measures to ensure the entry into force of new education laws and ensure the expansion of intercultural programmes (State of Palestine);**

121.150. **Continue its efforts to ensure the enrolment of all segments of the society in education (Oman);**

121.151. **Further strengthen its efforts to promote the right to education, including by implementing an affordable education programme for all (Indonesia);**

121.152. **Continue to focus on the overall improvement in the quality of education provided, particularly in rural areas (Malaysia);**

121.153. **Continue to focus on the overall improvement in the quality of education, particularly in rural areas (Sri Lanka);**

121.154. **Take steps to eradicate female illiteracy among rural and indigenous women and implement equal education opportunities for rural and indigenous girls (Estonia);**

121.155. **Continue to promote the education of women in rural and indigenous communities (Djibouti);**

121.156. **Ensure the enrolment in the education system of children of non-regularized immigrants (Spain);**

121.157. **Take all the necessary measures to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the domestic level (Ethiopia);**

121.158. **Enhance efforts to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, thereby continuing progress already achieved in this area (Trinidad and Tobago);**

121.159. **Continue with the measures aimed at improving the protection and integration of persons with disabilities (Argentina);**

121.160. **Continue with the actions for the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples (Ecuador);**

121.161. **Take further measures to ensure the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous people (Greece);**

121.162. **Continue the implementation of policies addressing issues peculiar to indigenous peoples, particularly women and children (Trinidad and Tobago);**

121.163. **Accelerate the adoption of laws aimed at the constitutional recognition of indigenous peoples (Uzbekistan);**

121.164. **Take further steps to give constitutional recognition to indigenous peoples and ensure the protection of their human rights (Brazil);**

121.165. **Continue and intensify work to improve the situation of indigenous people with special efforts to tackle poverty among them, to improve their access to education beyond high school and to give them constitutional recognition (Slovenia);**

121.166. **Implement measures to support the full participation of indigenous peoples in democratic institutions and economic development (Canada);**

121.167. **Take action, through the appropriate procedures, to ensure that the Anti-Terrorist Law does not undermine the rights of indigenous peoples and include those rights in the legal and administrative structure of the country (Cuba);**

121.168. **Refrain from applying anti-terrorism legislation to Mapuche individuals in the context of intercultural conflicts, including land disputes, and increase political dialogue on indigenous issues (United States);**

121.169. **Ensure that all human rights of indigenous persons are promoted and respected, inter alia by ensuring the participation of concerned groups in the decision-making processes that affect their human rights and by ensuring that the application of the Counter-Terrorism Law does not undermine the human rights of indigenous as well as other persons (Germany);**

121.170. **Give urgent attention to the full implementation of ILO Convention 169, especially with regard to prior consultation on legislative and administrative measures that may affect indigenous communities (Norway);**

121.171. **Work for the effective implementation of ILO Convention 169, preventing acts of unawareness and contempt for the human rights of indigenous peoples, in particular of the Mapuche (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));**

121.172. **Encourage the participation of indigenous peoples in decisions that affect them through the enforcement of the regulations on prior consultation adopted in November 2013 (Peru);**

121.173. **Continue the efforts to implement consultation mechanisms and ensure the protection of human rights of indigenous groups (Sweden);**

121.174. **Take concrete measures to guarantee the effective participation of indigenous peoples in decisions that affect them, in line with systematically implementing the right to consultation (Austria);**

121.175. **Further development of a process of effective dialogue and negotiation with indigenous groups is established to address land and natural resources issues (Australia);**

121.176. **Continue with its policy aimed at improving the living conditions of indigenous peoples on the labour market, with a view to their social stability (Angola);**

121.177. **Continue efforts aimed to minimize the environmental impact of economic activities affecting indigenous people (Belarus);**

121.178. **Take all measures to establish a legal framework to address the issues affecting the migrant population, minorities, refugees and indigenous people (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

121.179. **Continue its efforts to adopt a law modernizing the migration regime, which incorporates a human rights approach, recognizes the rights and obligations of regular and irregular migrants and contains provisions regarding a national migration policy, the fight against trafficking in persons and the protection of refugees (Guatemala);**

121.180. **Establish a legal framework for the comprehensive protection of the rights of migrants, in particular the rights of migrant children or children of migrant parents (Colombia);**

121.181. **Continue to protect and promote the rights of migrant workers (Djibouti);**

121.182. **Take the necessary steps to address the social exclusion and vulnerability of migrant women (Sri Lanka);**

121.183. **Ensure respect for the human rights of Bolivians who go to and return from Chilean territory, especially in situations that can lead to arbitrary detention, on the understanding that every person has the right to move freely, in particular the right to leave and return to his/her country (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));**

121.184. **Ensure justice and reparation for victims of the effects of environmental degradation and adopt an environmental standard for the pollutant emissions of foundries (Egypt).**

122. **The recommendation below did not enjoy the support of Chile because Chile considers it does not fall under the competence of the universal periodic review mechanism in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1.**

122.1. **Comply with international instruments, in order to promote the development of friendly relations between nations, guaranteeing the right of an ample right of transit in the port of the Pacific, ensuring the universal and effective respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms within and beyond its borders (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)).**

123. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

[English only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Chile was headed by Mr. Bruno Baranda, Minister of Social Development and composed of the following members:

- Mr. Juan Ignacio Piña, Minister of Justice, Alternate Head of Delegation;
- Mr. Hugo Dolmestch, Minister, Supreme Court of Justice;
- Mr. Jose Luis Balmaceda, Ambassador, Permanent Representative in Geneva;
- Ms. Ximena Vidal, Congresswoman, Chamber of Deputies;
- Mr. Joel Rosales, Congressman, Chamber of Deputies;
- Mr. Juan Pablo Crisostomo, Minister Counsellor, Director for Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Cristian Streeter, Minister Counsellor, Deputy Permanent Representative in Geneva;
- Mr. Jaime Moscoso, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Chile in Geneva;
- Mr. Hassan Zeran, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Chile in Geneva;
- Mr. Jaime Godoy, head of the Universal Department, Direction for Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Rene Rojas, Third Secretary, Direction for Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Pablo Urquizar, Chief of Cabinet, Ministry-General Secretariat of Government;
- Mr. Milenko Bertrand-Galindo, Coordinator for Human Rights, Ministry of Justice;
- Ms. Alejandra Voigt, Coordinator of the Legal-Legislative Division, Ministry-General Secretariat of Government;
- Ms. Gabriela Cabellos, Chief of the Legal Division, Department of Immigration, Ministry of Interior;
- Ms. Pamela Cofre, Major, Deputy Chief, Department of Human Rights, Carabineros (police);
- Mr. Matias Abogabir, Chief, Coordination Unit for Indigenous Affairs, Ministry of Social Development;
- Mr. Alberto Vergara, Chief of the Legal Division, Ministry of Education;
- Mr. Jorge Alvarez, Chief of Studies, National Service for Minors;
- Ms. Elisa Giesen, Advisor to the Minister-Secretary-General of Government;
- Ms. Paula Badilla, Human Rights Advisor, Ministry of Justice;
- Ms. Andrea Martinez, Legislative Advisor, Ministry of Social Development;
- Ms. Paula Garcia-Huidobro, Advisor to the Minister, National Service for Women;
- Mr. Pedro Cayuqueo, Indigenous Representative;
- Mr. Hugo Alcaman, Indigenous Representative;
- Ms. Lorena Fries, Director, National Institute for Human Rights;
- Ms. Paula Salvo, Assistant to the Director; National Institute for Human Rights.

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Universal Periodic Review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Viet Nam

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I. Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its eighteenth session from 27 January to 7 February 2014. The review of Viet Nam was held at the 16th meeting on 5 February 2014. The delegation of Viet Nam was headed by Ha Kim Ngoc, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. At its 18th meeting, held on 7 February 2014, the Working Group adopted the report on Viet Nam.

2. On 15 January 2014, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Viet Nam: Costa Rica, Kazakhstan and Kenya.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Viet Nam:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation given in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/18/VNM/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/18/VNM/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/18/VNM/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Viet Nam through the troika. Those questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review (UPR).

II. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The Vietnamese delegation was led by Ha Kim Ngoc, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, and was composed of 22 representatives from 11 government agencies, namely the Government Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Information and Communications, the Ministry of Planning and Investment, the Government Committee for Religious Affairs, the Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs, the People's Supreme Court, and the Mass Communication and Education Department of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party.

6. In its first UPR in May 2009, Viet Nam received 123 recommendations from 60 countries, 96 of which were accepted. To date, all accepted recommendations have been implemented in all domains, particularly the development of laws and policies on human rights, poverty reduction, sustainable economic development, social security, employment, education and health care, fundamental freedoms of citizens and the rights of vulnerable groups.

7. It has been the consistent policy of Viet Nam to respect, protect and promote all fundamental human rights and freedoms, and this has constituted the guiding principle for

all strategies and policies for national socioeconomic development. Viet Nam has maintained an environment of peace and stability, sustained economic growth and improved material and cultural life. This has created the necessary preconditions for the promotion and protection of human rights in all political, civil, economic, cultural and social domains.

8. On 28 November 2013, the National Assembly adopted a Constitution, which represents a step towards a rule-of-law State and the institutionalization of human rights in conformity with the international human rights norms and instruments to which Viet Nam is a party. Since 2009, 25 key laws have been enacted or amended with a view to better compliance with and exercise of human rights and 41 national socioeconomic development strategies and programmes have been approved and implemented.

9. Viet Nam has strengthened cooperation and engagement with regional and international organizations, in particular the Human Rights Council, thereby making a significant contribution to the cause of human rights.

10. Viet Nam has been recognized internationally as one of the top performers in attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The economic growth of 5.5–6 per cent from 2009 to 2012 permitted Viet Nam to accomplish the many set targets in labour, employment, health care, education and social security, such as creating 1.5 million new jobs every year, keeping unemployment below 2 per cent, and completing the universalization of primary and secondary education.

11. By the end of 2013, there were a total of 997 print newspapers and 1,084 publications. Nearly 17,000 licensed journalists are working in Viet Nam. Regular Internet users account for 34 per cent of the population.

12. There are 460 associations and social and professional organizations active at the provincial, interprovincial and national levels, as compared with 380 in 2009; 20 business trade union organizations; and over 36,000 associations, unions of associations and clubs at local levels operating in all walks of life.

13. The consistent policy of Viet Nam is to respect, ensure and create enabling conditions for all people to exercise the freedom of religion and belief. There are 8,500 religious and belief-related activities of varying scopes which take place annually throughout the country.

14. In June 2012, Viet Nam signed and ratified the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons. In November 2013, it signed the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment (CAT), which it will ratify, together with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Viet Nam has also signed a number of International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions related to labour and employment.

15. Viet Nam presented reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in February 2012 and the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in May 2012. It has submitted reports to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; and is in the process of drafting its report for the Human Rights Committee.

16. Viet Nam has received visits from five special procedures, including the Independent Expert on minority issues (July 2010), the Independent Expert on extreme poverty and human rights (August 2010), the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights (March 2011), the Special Rapporteur on the right to health (December 2011) and the Independent Expert in the field of cultural rights (November 2013) and has extended invitations to three others. The

Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief is scheduled to visit Viet Nam in August 2014.

17. At the regional level, Viet Nam has made a remarkable contribution to the establishment and operation of the Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and its Commission on Protecting and Promoting the Rights of Women and Children. Notably, Viet Nam joined with other ASEAN countries in developing and adopting the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration in November 2011.

18. Viet Nam still faces many challenges, including the consequences of wars, natural disasters, pandemics and climate change, as well as the negative impacts of globalization. There is still a lack of uniformity in the legal system, together with overlapping legislation. The Government is aware of the difficulties and challenges and will continue to improve the legal system on the basis of the 2013 Constitution. National programmes have been implemented in specific areas to make the social security system more accessible to disadvantaged groups. At the international level, Viet Nam advocates continued efforts to enhance cooperation with all countries, United Nations mechanisms and specialized agencies and participates actively and responsively in the work of the Human Rights Council.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

19. During the interactive dialogue, 106 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

20. Norway recognized progress made towards achieving the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) standards and a more vibrant and open civil society. It noted the importance of freedom of expression and the role of the media in socioeconomic development.

21. Oman welcomed improvement in educational, health-care and social welfare services, and programmes aimed at developing the labour market, reducing poverty and providing adequate housing.

22. Pakistan commended accession to several international human rights instruments, cooperation with the Human Rights Council special procedures, and political and economic reforms undertaken to meet international human rights obligations.

23. Thailand noted the new Constitution, which would create a stronger human rights foundation, and the adoption of a national action plan to build a safer living environment for children. It encouraged the establishment of a national human rights institution.

24. Poland commended the ongoing efforts to comply with international obligations. It remained concerned about the situation of human rights defenders, and religious and ethnic minorities.

25. Portugal welcomed the cooperation with special procedures, and the death penalty reforms. It noted efforts to improve socioeconomic conditions, which had resulted in a reduction in poverty and greater access to education and health care.

26. The Republic of Korea acknowledged efforts to strengthen human rights legislation and policies by accelerating amendments to the Constitution. It commended the signature of CRPD and CAT, and encouraged their ratification.

27. The Republic of Moldova asked what services were provided to child victims of commercial sexual exploitation. It shared treaty body views on the need to expedite judicial reform and strengthen the juvenile justice system.

28. Hungary noted improvements in human rights education. It was concerned about recent legislation restricting freedom of expression and on the prosecution of writers, journalists, bloggers and human rights defenders.

29. The Russian Federation commended the adoption of amendments to the Penal Code, and welcomed improvements in social welfare and broader access to education and health care.

30. Senegal noted progress in ensuring the economic, social and cultural rights of the Vietnamese people, particularly measures to promote socioeconomic development and the rights of children and older persons.

31. Serbia welcomed legislative reforms and the ongoing development of a legal framework in compliance with international human rights instruments to improve the effectiveness of the rule of law and the functioning of institutions.

32. Singapore noted the implementation of national programmes to improve access to education, housing and health-care services. It also noted progress in reducing poverty and infant mortality and promoting religious harmony.

33. Slovakia commended the cooperation with special procedures and the adoption of legislation on socioeconomic rights. It invited the Government to take legislative and institutional measures to ensure that freedom of expression and assembly were in line with international standards.

34. Slovenia commended initiatives to improve children's rights, but remained concerned about discrimination against girls, child prostitution and child labour. It commended the withdrawal of reservations to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

35. South Sudan appreciated the steps taken to integrate human rights into police training college curricula and the engagement of Viet Nam with human rights mechanisms. It encouraged continued efforts to provide education to all without discrimination.

36. Spain expressed concern about the lack of an independent national human rights institution and the imposition of the death penalty for drug trafficking.

37. Sri Lanka praised the early attainment of MDGs, particularly regarding hunger alleviation and poverty reduction. It noted that ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and a visit by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants were under consideration.

38. The State of Palestine welcomed efforts to broaden access to social security and to improve the quality of education.

39. The Sudan commended the role given to civil society and the media in amending the Constitution. It praised the attainment of MDG 1 on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger ahead of schedule.

40. Sweden noted an increase in regulations to control the Internet, and arrests of persons for exercising their right to freedom of expression.

41. Switzerland welcomed the signature of CAT. It expressed concern about the right to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association.

42. Syria commended the broad consultations held for the preparation of the national report through frank dialogue among stakeholders.

43. The Philippines noted progress in ratifying international human rights instruments and engagement with regional human rights bodies. It praised the inclusion of human rights among the constitutional amendments.

44. Timor-Leste noted the steps taken to strengthen the legal system to ensure the protection and promotion of the human rights of citizens, particularly in the area of health.

45. Togo noted progress in honouring international commitments. It commended the achievement of most of the MDGs.

46. Tunisia noted progress made since the review in 2009. It encouraged Viet Nam to fight more effectively all forms of discrimination against women.

47. Turkey commended steps taken to protect the rights of vulnerable groups. It expressed concern about the income gap between rich and poor.

48. Kazakhstan noted the signature of CRPD and the ratification of CAT and steps taken in human rights education among government bodies to ensure freedom of religion and social welfare provision.

49. The United Arab Emirates commended policies and laws regarding the human rights of the population.

50. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland encouraged Viet Nam to ensure that all citizens have the right to freedom of expression and assembly without fear of harassment or imprisonment.

51. The United States of America welcomed progress on protecting the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) persons. It expressed concern about restrictions on freedom of religion and the formation of independent trade unions, and about harassment of unregistered churches.

52. Uruguay highlighted the abolition of the death penalty for some crimes, the signature of CRPD, and policies aimed at strengthening human rights education.

53. Uzbekistan commended the attention paid to UPR. It noted the strengthening of constitutional guarantees, amendments to the Penal Code and the implementation of various human rights awareness-raising programmes.

54. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela praised progress made, particularly with regard to the achievement of most of the MDGs.

55. Yemen commended efforts to improve and develop the human rights situation. It highlighted various measures, including laws to protect elderly people, people with disabilities and trade unions.

56. The delegation reaffirmed the commitment and efforts of the Government to protect and promote human rights by giving detailed supplementary information on domestic legal reform, accession to and implementation of international instruments, the achievement of MDGs, the exercise of freedom of opinion and speech, and the implementation of the Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code.

57. The delegation gave details of the drafting and adoption process for the 2013 Constitution, which gave human rights, together with citizens' rights, higher priority than ever before. Under the 2013 Constitution, although restrictions might be put on the exercise of rights for national security, public order and health or morality, they are in conformity with international standards.

58. The newly amended Land Law protects the rights of citizens, especially the rights and legitimate benefits of women citizens regarding ownership and use of land.

59. There had been a reduction in the number of crimes subject to the death penalty in the Penal Code since 2009. Viet Nam would work to further reduce the number of crimes subject to that punishment, particularly during the amending process for the Penal Code by 2016. By 2016, draft laws relating to human rights, such as the Amended Law on the Press, the Law on Association, the Law on Demonstrations and the Law on Information Access, would be submitted for the consideration of the National Assembly.

60. A report on ICCPR was being prepared for submission during 2014. The possibility of acceding to the Convention on Stateless Persons was being studied. Other studies on international human rights instruments, including the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, were under way.

61. The achievement of MDGs was emphasized, as three goals, those of poverty alleviation, universal primary education and gender equity enhancement, had been achieved ahead of schedule. Much progress had been made in achieving other goals. The post-2015 agenda of Viet Nam would focus on sustaining and improving results achieved in the domains of poverty reduction, social equity and HIV/AIDS.

62. The recent boom in the mass media and the wide use of the Internet had helped improve the exercise of freedom of the press and of expression, opinion and access to information. Public debate on democracy had taken place in the National Assembly, in other public forums and in the press on various topics and had included a public poll of confidence in elected public officials at all levels in 2013.

63. In conformity with ICCPR, restrictions on the exercise of the freedoms of expression and opinion were intended to protect public security, safety, order, health and morality, and to prevent the abuse of those freedoms to infringe legitimate rights and benefits or the dignity of other people and entities. The provisions of Decree 72 were in full conformity with the Laws on the Press and Telecommunications.

64. The delegation explained how provisions on national security and public order in the Penal Code were established and implemented in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and ICCPR. It confirmed that, both in law and in practice, persons involved in legal proceedings, including pretrial detainees and prisoners, enjoyed rights and benefits such as family visits, legal assistance, access to justice, telecommunication services, food, health care and recreational activities without discrimination.

65. Afghanistan noted positive action, including the expansion of the education infrastructure for people of different age groups, and work with United Nations bodies to enhance cooperation in tackling child-related sexual crime in the region.

66. Albania commended the cooperation with interested parties at the national level in preparing the national report, and the consultation process for amendments to the Constitution. It welcomed steps to limit the scope of the death penalty.

67. Algeria commended legislative measures to improve the enjoyment of human rights. It referred to the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights, and action taken on education, health and social services.

68. Angola noted progress made since the last review. It commended efforts in the area of education and asked for more information on results obtained on the policy for integrating human rights into education.

69. Nicaragua commended cooperation with special procedures and treaty bodies, and legislative measures to promote respect for human rights.

70. Australia welcomed the accession to CAT and acknowledged the reduction in the number of crimes incurring the death penalty. It remained concerned about restrictions on freedom of expression, assembly and association.

71. Austria was concerned about the number of persons on death row, restrictions on freedom of expression, arrests of journalists and peaceful activists and the fact that the Government had prevented human rights activists from travelling to Geneva.

72. Azerbaijan appreciated the accession to, inter alia, the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and ILO Convention No. 122 (1964) concerning Employment Policy, and commended the cooperation with human rights instruments.

73. Bangladesh expressed its appreciation of socioeconomic improvement and of measures to continue legal reforms, as recommended by Bangladesh during the first UPR. It acknowledged the remaining challenges.

74. Belarus commended the enactment or amendment of laws to boost the enjoyment of human rights, particularly the Law on Human Trafficking. It noted achievements in hunger alleviation, poverty reduction, health care and education.

75. Belgium welcomed advances made since the first UPR cycle.

76. Bhutan commended the adoption of new legislation and the reform of existing laws. It praised the attainment of the MDGs relating to hunger alleviation and poverty reduction, malaria prevention and universal primary education.

77. The Plurinational State of Bolivia welcomed human rights education and training programmes for civil servants, and gender equality policies and programmes. It praised achievements in poverty reduction.

78. Bosnia and Herzegovina noted the accession to CAT. It commended awareness-raising measures for the implementation of recommendations, and dialogue and cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms. It acknowledged the commitment to overcome shortcomings.

79. Brazil noted the reduction in extreme poverty, the elimination of hunger, increased women's participation in the parliament and in government, and amendments to the Land Law. It urged review of the list of crimes punishable by death.

80. Brunei Darussalam welcomed progress in improving economic, social and cultural rights and efforts to improve social welfare, alleviate hunger, reduce poverty and protect the rights of vulnerable groups, including women.

81. Burkina Faso, while acknowledging improvements, urged continued efforts in human rights education, the rights of persons with disabilities, school enrolment and women's participation in decision-making.

82. Cabo Verde noted progress in numerous areas, including the Government's intention to create a national human rights institution. It highlighted programmes in place on gender equality and the protection of children and older persons.

83. Cambodia commended the strengthening of the legal system, policies to ensure better enjoyment of economic, social, civil and political rights, and achievements in gender equality and women's rights.

84. Canada asked whether a date had been set for the adoption of the law on access to information in line with its previous recommendation and the international commitments of Viet Nam under the 2009 UPR.

85. Chad noted that, since the previous review, the promotion and protection of human rights had been made a core element of socioeconomic development strategies.

86. Chile commended efforts to promote and protect human rights, including the adoption of action plans, the strengthening of the institutional framework, and amendments to existing legislation.

87. China commended the implementation of previous recommendations, the promotion of the law on persons with disabilities, the promotion of economic growth and of gender equality, and the protection of the rights of women and children.

88. The Congo noted visits by four special procedures mandate holders, and efforts made in education, economic development and health.

89. Cuba, citing statements by Vietnamese and Cuban leaders in previous decades, confirmed its ongoing solidarity with the people of Viet Nam.

90. The Czech Republic noted the adoption of the new Constitution following a broad consultative process, the lifting of the ban on same-sex marriage and the recent signature of CAT.

91. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea expressed its appreciation of policies and legal measures adopted to further improve the rights and freedoms of all people and encouraged continued efforts.

92. Denmark noted socioeconomic progress and welcomed the new Constitution, which placed greater emphasis on human rights and the rule of law. It remained concerned about restrictions on freedom of expression.

93. Djibouti welcomed sustainable poverty reduction programmes focusing on the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, and the gender equality strategy, aimed at eliminating gender disparities and promoting women in society.

94. Ecuador commended programmes aimed at poverty reduction and the eradication of child prostitution and human trafficking. It welcomed the ratification of the Hague Adoption Convention and the enactment of the Law on Persons with Disability.

95. Egypt noted increased human rights education and training activities. It requested details of plans aimed at translating the country's macroeconomic performance into enhanced measures of social justice and human development.

96. Estonia acknowledged the recent signing of CAT, but noted deficiencies in ensuring the enjoyment of basic civil and political rights. It regretted the continued use of the death penalty.

97. Ethiopia welcomed the birth registration campaign, progress in reducing statelessness, and sustainable poverty reduction programmes, and the special attention paid to disadvantaged groups in housing and education.

98. Finland welcomed achievements in decreasing poverty and improving access to health care and education. It asked how freedom of expression online was enshrined in legislation.

99. France was concerned about further executions and recent death sentences. France invited Viet Nam to adopt a moratorium and engage in a national debate on abolition of the death penalty. It was concerned about restrictions on freedom of expression.

100. The delegation of the State under review stated that activities by trade unions were fully guaranteed under the Constitution, the Law on Trade Union 2012, the Labour Code 2009 and other legal provisions. Legal provisions guaranteed the rights of workers to trade unions and established the responsibility of trade unions to protect the legal rights and interests of workers. Progress had been recognized in the activities of trade unions, with an

increase in trade union members to over 500,000, and 4,000 local trade union branches in 2013 alone.

101. A number of legal documents and national policies dealt with the rights of the child, especially regarding child labour, child prostitution and child pornography. Viet Nam cooperated with other international organizations, including ILO.

102. The delegation referred to the progress in protecting and promoting freedom of religion and belief over recent years, such as the increasing number of recognized religious organizations and favourable conditions for places of worship. The publication of books and items for religious purposes, and the import and printing of religious books in ethnic minority languages had been facilitated. Charitable and humanitarian action by religious bodies and dignitaries was encouraged.

103. All ethnic minorities had been given enabling conditions to allow them to enjoy equality with the majority group. Since the previous UPR, the human rights of ethnic minorities had been better protected and promoted. Viet Nam had recorded a large number of National Assembly deputies as well as provincial and local council members from ethnic minorities. Remote and mountainous regions were covered by the Internet and broadcasting services, including channels broadcast in minority languages. Legal assistance for ethnic minorities had been increased, with nearly 2,000 clubs in regions with ethnic minorities. A law on ethnic minorities would be developed in the context of the implementation of the 2013 Constitution.

104. Viet Nam upheld the principles of fairness and equality and guaranteed their enforcement. Fundamental principles to ensure the rights to counsel of defendants, the right to equality before the law and the presumption of innocence were enshrined in legal provisions. The 2013 Constitution guaranteed the principles of independence and strict compliance with the law by judges. In addition, the role and work of lawyers were protected. The right to counsel of detainees and defendants and the equal rights of counsel and procurators were guaranteed.

105. Gabon welcomed legislation adopted to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities and combat human trafficking, and a national action plan aimed at providing education for all.

106. Germany commended achievements in combating poverty, the signing of CAT and the decision to decriminalize homosexual partnerships.

107. Greece appreciated efforts to eradicate hunger and poverty. It was concerned about restrictions on freedom of expression, association and assembly.

108. The Islamic Republic of Iran commended the promotion and protection of human rights since the first UPR cycle, including policies on education and the rights of children and persons with disabilities.

109. India welcomed efforts to amend the Constitution to promote and protect human rights, and noted that treaty bodies had welcomed measures to help the poorest ethnic minorities in housing, education and language.

110. Indonesia recognized the commitment to human rights through measures to protect civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and progress in poverty reduction. It encouraged the sharing of best practices.

111. Romania was confident that, as a member of the Human Rights Council, Viet Nam would uphold the highest standards in human rights.

112. Iraq commended the alignment of national legislation with international human rights obligations. It welcomed the National Strategy on Gender Equality and the integration of human rights issues into police training college curricula.

113. Ireland was gravely concerned about reported harassment and imprisonment of human rights defenders, and noted the lack of an independent media and reports of increasing surveillance by State-owned Internet providers.

114. Italy commended the progress in economic and social rights. It welcomed achievements on the rights of the child and asked about measures envisaged to combat the trafficking and sexual abuse of children.

115. Japan welcomed the efforts to reduce poverty. It encouraged the protection of the rights of vulnerable people. It noted reports of control of the media and constraints on individuals criticizing the Government.

116. Turkmenistan welcomed the efforts to strengthen legislative, institutional and policy mechanisms for the protection and promotion of human rights. It looked forward to receiving more information on new human rights safeguards brought in by amendments to the Constitution.

117. Kyrgyzstan noted progress in poverty alleviation, and the attainment of the MDG on poverty reduction ahead of schedule. Additionally, labour market development programmes had helped workers to find jobs.

118. The Lao People's Democratic Republic appreciated achievements in implementing MDGs and reducing poverty. It encouraged continued cooperation with the United Nations, international organizations and stakeholders to overcome constraints and challenges.

119. Latvia noted the legislative amendments to discontinue the use of the death penalty and life imprisonment for juveniles. It encouraged more efforts to address gender-based violence. It noted the cooperation with special procedures.

120. Libya commended the adoption of the National Action Plan on older persons and the National Strategy on Gender Equality.

121. Liechtenstein welcomed the legislation on gender equality. It noted concerns about discrimination against girls and women and the persistently high level of physical, sexual and psychological violence against women.

122. Lithuania noted the cessation of the use of the death penalty for juvenile offenders, but remained concerned about the increase in the number of death sentences, restrictions on assembly and harassment of human rights defenders.

123. Luxembourg welcomed progress towards attaining the MDGs. It considered that freedom of the press and expression and the right to a fair trial remained major concerns.

124. Madagascar welcomed the ratification of several international human rights instruments, normative and institutional plans, and progress in socioeconomic and cultural areas.

125. Malaysia noted the significant progress in implementing legislative reforms in line with its previous recommendation, and in human rights education, social welfare, education, hunger eradication and poverty reduction.

126. Mali welcomed measures to strengthen the legal framework of Viet Nam by acceding to several international human rights instruments, and progress in combating social inequalities and towards attaining the MDGs.

127. Mauritania welcomed the establishment of the Committee of Ethnic Minorities to fight against racial discrimination. It commended polices to develop health care and education and to promote human rights education.

128. Mexico commended the recently adopted laws against human trafficking and in support of people with disabilities. It praised the withdrawal of reservations to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the national campaign on birth registration.

129. Montenegro was concerned about CRC reports of child prostitution, trafficking and sexual exploitation and commended measures to address those challenges. It asked whether Viet Nam intended to ratify CAT and its optional protocol and the Rome Statute.

130. Morocco commended the attainment of the goal of universal primary education and the dynamic socioeconomic situation of Viet Nam, which had enabled the early attainment of MDGs.

131. Mozambique praised the integration of human rights subjects into school curricula, the provision of human rights training for police and the achievement of most of the MDGs.

132. Myanmar congratulated Viet Nam on the significant progress in reducing poverty and establishing child health programmes.

133. Namibia welcomed the commitment to improving living conditions, the significant reduction in the number of crimes subject to the death penalty, and the decision to remove the death penalty for juvenile offenders.

134. Nepal commended the early achievement of most MDGs and progress in reducing poverty, creating employment, providing social welfare, health care and education, promoting gender equality and protecting the rights of older persons, children and persons with disabilities.

135. The Netherlands was concerned about delays in reforming the Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code and about legislation against human rights defenders and Internet protesters. It encouraged efforts to align national legislation with international standards and to promote gender equality and non-discrimination.

136. New Zealand remained concerned about prisoner access to legal advice, harassment of human rights lawyers and allegations of arbitrary arrest and detention. It welcomed the reform relating to the application of the death penalty.

137. Argentina, referring to the Law on the Elderly, encouraged the sharing of good practices with the Independent Expert concerned. It urged Viet Nam to review legal provisions concerning the death penalty and to amend the Criminal Procedure Code.

138. Niger welcomed the constitutional and legal reforms, the strengthening of the judiciary and institutions, and policies adopted to guarantee human rights. It noted improved living conditions and poverty reduction in line with the MDGs.

139. Nigeria invited Viet Nam to align domestic legislation with international human rights instruments and to further disseminate human rights-related information. It urged Viet Nam to strengthen its disaster management capacity to include prevention; to facilitate access to health care; to prioritize access to education in rural areas, and to improve social standards.

140. The State under review reiterated the importance of advocacy for dialogue and cooperation on human rights. It had held periodic bilateral dialogues on human rights with a number of other countries while also working actively with specialized United Nations human rights agencies.

141. The State under review expressed its thanks for the constructive comments and recommendations. As the UPR mechanism was aimed at improving the human rights situation on the ground, the greatest benefit would result from the implementation of realistic and deliverable recommendations.

142. The State under review would give careful and serious consideration to every recommendation and would respond accordingly in due course.

III. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

143. **The following recommendations will be examined by Viet Nam, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the 26th session of the Human Rights Council in June 2014.**

143.1. **Continue efforts to ratify international human rights instruments, to which Viet Nam is not yet a party (Nicaragua)/ Consider signing and ratifying the main international human rights treaties (Albania)/Continue its accession to international human rights treaties (Azerbaijan)/Ratify international instruments to which Viet Nam is not yet a party (Niger);**

143.2. **In its implementation of Constitution article 69, ensure compliance with its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) (Norway);**

143.3. **Continue to strengthen its efforts to promote and protect fundamental freedoms and rights guaranteed under ICCPR (Republic of Korea);**

143.4. **Ensure that any law governing the Internet is in compliance with the international human rights obligations of Viet Nam as a State party to ICCPR (Belgium);**

143.5. **Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Djibouti);**

143.6. **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Portugal, Uruguay);**

143.7. **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to ICESCR (Spain)/Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to ICESCR (Portugal);**

143.8. **Ratify the First Optional Protocol to ICCPR; the Optional Protocol to CAT and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CPED) (Portugal);**

143.9. **Continue efforts to accede to international human rights treaties, particularly the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment (CAT) (Kazakhstan);**

143.10. **Take the necessary steps for timely ratification of CAT (Denmark);**

143.11. **Ensure prompt ratification of CAT (Belgium);**

143.12. **Ratify CAT (Gabon, Mali, Slovakia)/Accede to CAT (Togo);**

143.13. **Ratify CAT as soon as possible (Poland, Switzerland);**

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

143.14. **Quickly ratify and implement CAT (United States of America);**

143.15. **Promptly ratify CAT and sign its Optional Protocol (France)/Ensure speedy ratification of CAT and the Optional Protocol thereto (Czech Republic)/Ratify CAT and its Optional Protocol (Austria, Uruguay);**

143.16. **Take a step further by becoming a party to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Thailand);**

143.17. **Withdraw reservations to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and take appropriate measures to combat more effectively discriminatory stereotypes (Gabon);**

143.18. **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW) (Egypt)/Consider acceding to ICRMW (Algeria);**

143.19. **Step up efforts to review its domestic legislations and policies with a view to ratifying ICRMW (Philippines);**

143.20. **Complete the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) (Turkey);**

143.21. **Ratify CRPD, CAT, CPED and ICRMW (Burkina Faso);**

143.22. **Continue efforts undertaken to ensure ratification of CPED, as well as the main international human rights instruments, to which the country is not yet a party (Argentina);**

143.23. **Consider ratifying CPED (Uruguay)/Accede to CPED (Iraq);**

143.24. **Consider ratifying outstanding human rights treaties and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and withdraw existing reservations to treaties, to which Viet Nam is a party (Slovenia);**

143.25. **Continue the ratification of international human rights instruments, considering, in particular, ratification of the Rome Statute (Romania);**

143.26. **Consider ratifying the Rome Statute (Greece, Uruguay)/Take into consideration the possibility of acceding to the Rome Statute (Italy)/Ratify the Rome Statute (Estonia);**

143.27. **Ratify/accede to the Rome Statute and implement it fully at the national level, and accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Slovakia)/Ratify the Rome Statute and fully align its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute (Latvia)/ Accede to the Rome Statute as amended at the Review Conference in Kampala in 2010 and align its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute (Liechtenstein);**

143.28. **Consider ratifying other pending fundamental International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions such as Convention No. 189 (2011) concerning decent work for domestic workers (Uruguay);**

143.29. **Harmonize its legislation, regulations and policies with ILO Convention No. 29 (1930) concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour and No. 138 (1973) concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (Uruguay);**

143.30. **Strengthen its legal and institutional framework by ratifying CAT and its Optional Protocol, CPED and the Rome Statute (Tunisia);**

143.31. **Continue with the Constitutional review process aimed at strengthening the legal system and policies on human rights (Mozambique);**

143.32. **Continue developing the human rights legal framework (Sudan);**

143.33. **Implement a legal system which improves the human rights of peasants and other persons working in rural areas (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**

143.34. **Ensure that the 1999 Penal Code and 2003 Criminal Procedures Code, and their implementation are consistent with its international human rights obligations (Norway);**

143.35. **Continue strengthening national mechanisms to promote and protect human rights (Nepal);**

143.36. **Continue efforts to strengthen its institutional frameworks for human rights, including by giving consideration towards the establishment of a national human rights institution as guided by the Paris Principles (Indonesia);**

143.37. **Consider establishing a national human rights institution (Thailand);**

143.38. **Establish a national institution for the promotion and the protection of human rights (Morocco);**

143.39. **Establish an independent national human rights institution (Niger);**

143.40. **Establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Portugal, Spain);**

143.41. **Establish a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Congo, France, Madagascar, Togo);**

143.42. **Accelerate the process aimed at the establishment of a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles, and extend a standing invitation to special procedures (Tunisia);**

143.43. **Continue further improvement of the protection and promotion of human rights in the country (Azerbaijan);**

143.44. **Raise awareness among its people of laws and regulations so that they can exercise their rights effectively and adequately (Bhutan);**

143.45. **Continue efforts to promote and protect the rights of all segments of the population (Nepal);**

143.46. **Continue Government efforts to guarantee the exercise of power by, with, and for the people of Viet Nam (Cuba);**

143.47. **Strengthen policies to protect children, vulnerable groups and the disadvantaged (Madagascar);**

143.48. **Take effective measures to better guarantee the rights of vulnerable groups such as women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities (Myanmar);**

143.49. **Continue to take appropriate measures and to provide adequate resources to ensure the socio-economic rights of vulnerable groups (Madagascar);**

143.50. **Maintain efforts undertaken to identify human rights violations (Djibouti);**

143.51. **Continue measures aimed at enhancing the capacity of the national human rights mechanism (Uzbekistan);**

143.52. **Build the capacity of national institutions and mechanisms to promote and protect human rights in the implementation of international human rights instruments (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**

143.53. **Better attract and facilitate the participation of socio-political organizations in the promotion and protection of human rights (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**

143.54. **Build the capacity for officers whose work concerns protection of the rights of vulnerable groups, especially children and persons with disabilities (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**

143.55. **Continue policies aimed at reducing inequalities in access to the full enjoyment of human rights by all social groups with paying special attention to women, children and persons with disabilities (Kazakhstan);**

143.56. **Continue to carry out the policy on the protection and promotion of human rights of vulnerable groups, including children, women, persons with disabilities, and elderly persons (Russian Federation);**

143.57. **Continue improving the living standards of poor persons and those living in remote areas to which access is difficult (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

143.58. **Continue raising the awareness of the population through human rights education programmes (Mali);**

143.59. **Continue supporting human rights education at all level of the education system through the appropriate measures and content (Egypt);**

143.60. **Further enhance efforts to develop the human rights education system and to strengthen a culture of human rights (Uzbekistan);**

143.61. **Continue dissemination of and training on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

143.62. **Continue work on introducing awareness-raising and educational programmes on human rights into the curricula of schools and universities and on organizing relevant programmes for civil servants (Belarus);**

143.63. **Strengthen human rights education to ensure that the population is better informed (Djibouti);**

143.64. **Increase education on human rights to raise public awareness and the capacity of relevant legal agencies to better ensure the rights and basic freedoms of the people within the nation's rule of law (Myanmar);**

143.65. **Strengthen human rights education by providing special programmes for law enforcement officials and the judiciary (Morocco);**

143.66. **Consider further cooperation with the international human rights monitoring mechanisms, including treaty bodies and Special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Turkmenistan);**

143.67. **Continue its cooperation with the High Commissioner for Human Rights, treaty bodies and special procedures mandate holders (Chad);**

143.68. **Further strengthen cooperation with human rights mechanisms, improve compliance with treaty body reporting mechanisms and consider accession to the First Optional Protocol to ICCPR (Poland);**

143.69. **Fully address recommendations and issues of concern raised by the Committee on the Rights of the Child with regard to child abuses and allocation of economic resources (Albania);**

143.70. **Consider extending a standing invitation to special procedures (Slovenia)/Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);**

143.71. **Issue a standing invitation to special procedures (Austria)/Issue a standing invitation to all special procedures (Czech Republic, United Kingdom, Greece)/Extend a standing invitation to all thematic special procedures (Montenegro)/Extend an open invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Uruguay);**

143.72. **Extend a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate holders as a sign of goodwill to cooperate fully with all human rights mechanisms (Germany);**

143.73. **Accept all outstanding and new requests from mandate holders to visit the country (Hungary);**

143.74. **Respond positively to the requests of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression for a visit (Mexico);**

143.75. **Continue its active engagement with the United Nations human rights mechanisms for the protection and promotion of human rights (Azerbaijan);**

143.76. **Continue cooperation with all mechanisms of the Human Rights Council (Romania);**

143.77. **Work on strengthening international cooperation in the field of human rights (Turkmenistan);**

143.78. **Actively participate in the work of the Human Rights Council on the basis of dialogue and cooperation to contribute to enhancement of the capacity, effectiveness, transparency and objectivity of the Council (Pakistan);**

143.79. **Accelerate fulfilment of its voluntary commitments as a member of the Council, especially by increasing resources to ensure social security and welfare of its citizens as well as the rights of vulnerable groups (Brunei Darussalam);**

143.80. **Continue efforts in implementing its National Strategy on Gender Equality (Cambodia);**

143.81. **Further enhance people's awareness of gender issues (Cambodia);**

143.82. **Work on policies and strategies to enhance awareness on gender issues (Ethiopia);**

143.83. **Significantly increase efforts to raise awareness among its population of gender equality and non-discrimination of women and girls (Liechtenstein);**

143.84. **Eliminate all forms of discrimination against girls, and ensure gender mainstreaming in all anti-discrimination policies and programmes (Slovenia);**

143.85. **Further implement relevant measures to protect women's and children's rights to improve women's status in economic, social and family life, and to combat violence against women (China);**

143.86. **Continue implementation of policies to combat discrimination against people from disadvantaged groups, including providing them with access to social security, health services, education and housing (Serbia);**

143.87. **Combat discrimination against women through anti-trafficking legislation; by ensuring women's entitlement to land in the Land Law; and by curbing domestic violence and violations of reproductive rights (Netherlands);**

143.88. **Enact a law to fight against discrimination which guarantees the equality of all citizens, regardless of their sexual orientation and gender identity (Chile);**

143.89. **Continue to reduce offences subjected to the death penalty (Belgium);**

143.90. **Continue to work towards reducing the number of crimes subject to the death penalty (Namibia);**

143.91. **Reduce the number of crimes punishable by death by December 2014 (United Kingdom);**

143.92. **Reduce the list of crimes punishable by death penalty, in particular economic crimes and those linked to drugs, and examine the possibility of introducing a moratorium (Switzerland);**

143.93. **Further reduce the number of crimes carrying the death penalty and publish figures on death verdicts (Germany);**

143.94. **Consider at least further restricting the use of the death penalty only for the most serious crimes, as stated in article 6 of ICCPR with a view to soon adopting a de facto moratorium on executions (Italy);**

143.95. **Continue reform towards eventual abolition of the death penalty, including greater transparency around its use (New Zealand);**

143.96. **Consider abolition of the death penalty in the near future (Greece);**

143.97. **Consider establishing a moratorium on the death penalty (Ecuador);**

143.98. **Consider a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its eventual abolition (Slovenia);**

143.99. **Consider a moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Namibia);**

143.100. **Consider imposing a moratorium on execution of death penalties while assessing the possibility of adopting the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR aimed at the abolition of the death penalty (Brazil);**

143.101. **Continue to work towards abolition of the death penalty and consider adopting an immediate de facto moratorium (Portugal);**

143.102. **Reintroduce a moratorium on executions with a view to abolition of the death penalty (Czech Republic);**

143.103. **Establish a moratorium on executions with a view to removing the death penalty from its criminal statutes and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR (Australia);**

143.104. **Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to becoming a party to the second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, and continue with efforts to uphold all international human rights standards, including civil and political rights (Estonia);**

143.105. **Establish a moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its abolition, and, in the meantime, ensure full compliance in all death penalty cases with international fair trial standards (Lithuania);**

143.106. **Establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (France);**

143.107. **Establish an official moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to abolition (Montenegro);**

143.108. **Establish a moratorium on executions with a view to the total abolition of capital punishment (Belgium);**

143.109. **Institute a moratorium on the application of the death penalty (Togo);**

143.110. **Immediately adopt a moratorium on the death penalty as a first step towards its abolition (Austria);**

143.111. **Adopt an indefinite moratorium on the death penalty and commute current convictions to achieve its total abolition (Spain);**

143.112. **Declare a moratorium on the capital punishment; until that, promptly reduce the number of offences subject to death penalty and publish statistics about the use of death penalty in Viet Nam (Sweden);**

143.113. **Publish precise information on the identity and number of convicted persons currently on death row (Belgium);**

143.114. **Continue using its sovereign right to apply the death penalty as a tool of criminal justice in accordance with the proper safeguards specified under international human rights law (Egypt);**

143.115. **Take into account the opinions of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention on the release of around 30 persons detained arbitrarily since the last UPR (Switzerland);**

143.116. **Implement the opinions of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention on individuals and release the individuals concerned (New Zealand);**

143.117. **Immediately release all prisoners held in arbitrary detention and recompense them as requested by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (Germany);**

143.118. **Revise vague national security laws that are used to suppress universal rights, and unconditionally release all political prisoners, such as Dr. Cu Huy Ha Vu, Le Quoc Quan, Dieu Cay and Tran Huynh Duy Thuc (United States of America);**

143.119. **Ensure in law and in practice the protection of women against all forms of violence (Canada);**

143.120. **Strengthen the national system of investigating complaints of child abuse and neglect, eliminate violence against children, and establish policies to protect children from all forms of violence (Poland);**

143.121. **Develop alternative measures to deprivation of children's liberty and provide children with rehabilitation and reintegration programmes (Republic of Moldova);**

143.122. **Pursue efforts to combat human trafficking, especially of women (Yemen);**

143.123. **Continue to be actively engaged in regional human rights bodies, particularly those concerning the promotion and protection of the rights of women and combating trafficking in persons (Philippines);**

143.124. **Undertake measures targeted at vulnerable groups, particularly children, in order to prevent trafficking in human beings for labour and sexual exploitation (Republic of Moldova);**

143.125. **Intensify action against child prostitution, child trafficking and the use of children in the sex trade, in accordance with the 2011–2015 action plan against prostitution (Mexico);**

143.126. **Enhance support for the reintegration of victims of trafficking, especially women and children (India);**

143.127. **Expedite implementation of the reform of the judicial system and intensify within the system a culture of systematic respect of human rights (Cabo Verde);**

143.128. **Continue to take measures to secure the rule of law, including by establishing a criminal justice system that gives due consideration to human rights (Japan);**

143.129. **Continue to enhance the rule of law, the legal and judicial system and mechanisms in the country to promote and protect human rights (Malaysia);**

143.130. **Continue strengthening the judiciary based on the principles of the independence of judges and prosecutors and ensure equal access for all to the justice system (Serbia);**

143.131. **Pursue efforts in the field of judicial reform and upgrade laws to reflect the will and interest of all segments of society (Syrian Arab Republic);**

143.132. **Strengthen its judicial system and take effective measures to fight poverty (Angola);**

143.133. **Take the necessary measures to guarantee its citizens' right to equality before the law, to be presumed innocent until proven guilty, and to a fair and public trial, as well as the right to freedom from arbitrary arrest or detention (Canada);**

143.134. **Guarantee the right of all persons to a fair trial and, in particular, allow for the presence without restriction of observers at court hearings (Luxembourg);**

143.135. **Ensure that efficient procedures and responsive mechanisms for effective and equal access to lawyers are provided for at all stages of legal proceedings (Denmark);**

143.136. **Provide public information on the number of detention camps, including administrative detention centres for drug treatment set up by the police, the military and the Ministry of Labour, on the number of persons detained therein; as well as on all forms of work in which detainees are involved (Austria);**

143.137. **Guarantee the right to family visits and legal assistance, in particular during police inquiries (Switzerland);**

143.138. **Provide, in accordance with its obligations under international human rights instruments, effective protection for the family as the fundamental and natural unit of society (Egypt);**

143.139. **Adjust the regulatory and legal framework to comply with international human rights standards in order to guarantee freedom of religion (Chile);**

143.140. **Continue its policies and programmes to promote religious tolerance and harmony in society (Singapore);**

143.141. **Encourage Viet Nam to continue to improve conditions of worship for all, enhance exchange of laws, and disseminate values of tolerance and peace with a view to developing principles of interfaith dialogue (United Arab Emirates);**

143.142. **Adopt further measures aimed at better guaranteeing freedom of religion, particularly by eliminating bureaucratic and administrative obstacles, which hinder the activities carried out by religious communities and groups (Italy);**

143.143. **Reduce administrative obstacles and registration requirements applicable to peaceful religious activities by registered and non-registered religious groups in order to guarantee freedom of religion or belief (Canada);**

143.144. **Further implement measures aimed at promoting freedom of expression and association and freedom of the media in line with the most advanced international standards (Italy);**

143.145. **Take all necessary action to respect and promote the right to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association in line with its international human rights obligations (Lithuania);**

143.146. **Actively promote steps to guarantee freedom of expression, as well as the freedom and independence of the press, including on the Internet (Japan);**

143.147. **Ensure that Viet Nam complies with its international obligations regarding freedom of expression, religion and assembly (Belgium);**

143.148. **Allow bloggers, journalists, other internet users and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to promote and protect human rights specifically by ensuring that laws concerning the Internet comply with the freedom of expression and information (Netherlands);**

143.149. **Protect and guarantee respect for freedom of information and expression, particularly for journalists, bloggers and human rights defenders, and undertake a review of legislation governing the press to ensure its compliance with international standards (Luxembourg);**

143.150. **Take steps to amend its Penal Code to ensure that it cannot be applied in an arbitrary manner to prevent freedom of expression (Finland);**

143.151. **Repeal or amend ambiguous provisions relating to national security in the Penal Code to prevent those provisions being applied in an arbitrary manner to stifle legitimate and peaceful dissent, debate and freedom of expression (Denmark);**

143.152. **Repeal or modify the Penal Code relating to national security particularly Articles 79, 88 and 258, in order to prevent those articles from being applied in an arbitrary manner to impede freedom of opinion and expression, including on the Internet (France);**

143.153. **Protect freedom of expression both offline and online by bringing legislation such as Decrees 2 and 72 into compliance with international human rights law (New Zealand);**

143.154. **Revise "Decree 72" and "Decree 174" relating to the management, provision and use of the Internet, to ensure their consistency with international human rights obligations, and in particular with Articles 19, 21 and 22 of ICCPR (Ireland);**

143.155. **Ensure that Decree 72, concerning the management, provision and use of Internet services and information online, is implemented in a manner that does not limit individuals' rights to voice their opinions online (Finland);**

143.156. **Give space to non-state media, and that make Criminal Code Articles 79, 88 and 258 more specific and consistent with international human rights obligations on freedom of expression (Australia);**

143.157. **Amend the provisions concerning offences against national security which could restrict freedom of expression, including on the Internet, particularly articles 79, 88 and 258 of the Penal Code, to ensure its compliance with Viet Nam's international obligations, including ICCPR (Canada);**

143.158. **Take the necessary measures to protect freedom of expression and press freedom, including through the Internet (Brazil);**

143.159. **Undertake measures enabling unrestricted access and use of the Internet to all citizens and undertake measures to guarantee the freedom of opinion and expression to everyone, as well as the freedom of press and media in the country (Estonia);**

143.160. **Take measures to ensure the effective protection of the right to freedom of expression and information, as well as the independence of the media, and release all human rights defenders, journalists, and religious and political dissidents detained for the peaceful expression of their opinion (Czech Republic);**

143.161. **Guarantee the right to freedom of expression both offline and online, and bring Decree 72 into line with international human rights obligations (Austria);**

143.162. **Give individuals, groups and organs of society the legitimacy and recognition to promote human rights and express their opinions or dissent publicly (Norway);**

143.163. **Ensure that its legal framework allows for free and independent operation of national and international media in accordance with its international human rights obligations under ICCPR (Norway);**

143.164. **In line with its previous commitments, take all measures to ensure that freedom of expression, including on the Internet, is fully guaranteed in law and practice by bringing its legislation in line with the obligations of Viet Nam under ICCPR (Hungary);**

143.165. **Create conditions favourable to the realization of freedom of expression, both online and offline, freedom of association, and freedom of religion and belief (Poland);**

143.166. **Ensure that freedom of expression is protected both offline and online and amend or remove vague provisions in the penal code, as well as new legislation to make sure that limitations on freedom of expression are strictly in line with ICCPR (Sweden);**

143.167. **Ensure a favourable environment for the activities of human rights defenders, journalists and other civil society actors (Tunisia);**

143.168. **Implement in a more effective manner the recommendations guaranteeing the right to freedom of expression (Chile);**

143.169. **Encourage strengthening of NGOs by promoting a legal, administrative and fiscal framework in which such institutions can be created and developed and perform their activities without any obstacles and with freedom of expression (Spain);**

143.170. **Maintain the momentum of development of the mass media, including the Internet, so as to protect freedom of expression (Pakistan);**

143.171. **Fulfil its obligation under ICCPR and fully guarantee the freedom of assembly and freedom of expression on the Internet as well as offline to all its citizens (Germany);**

143.172. **Take measures to ensure freedom of association, peaceful assembly and demonstration (France);**

143.173. **Facilitate the development of a safe and enabling environment for all civil society actors to freely associate and express their views by ensuring that national legislative provisions are not invoked to stifle legitimate and peaceful dissent (Ireland);**

143.174. **Take concrete steps to create a friendly environment for NGOs, including by easing their registration requirements (Czech Republic);**

143.175. **Enact laws to provide for and regulate freedom of assembly and peaceful demonstration in line with ICCPR (Australia);**

143.176. **Adopt measures to end prosecution of peaceful protesters (Greece);**

143.177. **Enhance equal political participation of its citizens, including by taking steps towards multi-party democracy (Czech Republic);**

143.178. **Deepen grass-roots democracy and better facilitate the right of the people to participate in the formulation and implementation of policies, such as the participation of political and social organizations in the field of human rights (Myanmar);**

143.179. **Undertake measures to enhance the participation of women in legislative, judicial and executive bodies (Pakistan);**

143.180. **Protect internationally recognized workers' rights and enforce laws prohibiting forced labour (United States of America);**

143.181. **Pursue efforts to create new job opportunities and to promote a legal framework for the labour market (Syrian Arab Republic);**

143.182. **Study and develop a more effective and convenient public service system, especially in social insurance, education and training, health care and legal assistance (Timor-Leste);**

143.183. **Continue to make every effort to promote economic and social development, further increase the level of social security and better promote people's livelihood (China);**

143.184. **Increase resources from the State budget and mobilize more financial resources from international cooperation to implement policies on social security (Timor-Leste);**

143.185. **Improve access by disadvantaged groups to social security (State of Palestine);**

143.186. **Continue implementing policies and programmes to assist poor people, improve their standard of living and ensure their access to social services (Syrian Arab Republic);**

143.187. **Continue appropriate measures to ensure the realization of the socioeconomic rights of its people and to provide adequate resources for vulnerable groups facing economic challenges (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

143.188. **Continue its efforts to improve access to education, housing and health-care services (Singapore);**

143.189. **Focus on mitigating income inequalities, providing equal opportunities in education and employment, and improving social security and health services for all segments of the population (Turkey);**

143.190. **Continue to take measures to guarantee poverty reduction and universal access to health services and education (Cuba);**

143.191. **Extend the scope of health insurance coverage for poor families (Kyrgyzstan);**

143.192. **Exert greater efforts to further reduce the child mortality rate (Ethiopia);**

143.193. **Ensure education free of charge in practice (Kyrgyzstan);**

143.194. **Improve its efforts on educational reform towards a comprehensive education policy with a particular focus on vulnerable groups, including children, person with disabilities and minorities (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

143.195. **Further develop the quality of education and health-care policies in the country (Kazakhstan);**

143.196. **Further expand efforts to provide all its citizens with access to school and to ensure equal enjoyment of the right to education, and increase bilingual education programmes (Afghanistan);**

143.197. **Strengthen activities in favour of rural areas by focusing on education and on preventing disadvantaged children from dropping out of school (Senegal);**

143.198. **Continue increasing investment in education and health through its successful social policies (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

143.199. **Continue intensifying efforts to provide high quality education and medical services to the population, including in remote rural areas (Belarus);**

143.200. **Continue its efforts to reduce inequality in education, particularly the quality gap in education between urban and rural areas (Bhutan);**

143.201. **Continue to improve access to education in rural areas (India);**

143.202. **Increase investments aimed at closing the quality gap between education in urban and rural, remote areas or those with ethnic minorities, as well as investments aimed at increasing education on the content of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and core international human rights instruments (State of Palestine);**

143.203. **Continue to improve the quality of education in rural and mountainous areas, and consider increasing the subsidy allocated to education in those areas (Algeria);**

143.204. **Pursue efforts to overcome challenges relating to improvement of the quality of education and to close the gap between urban, rural and remote areas (Syrian Arab Republic);**

143.205. **Continue its efforts to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities, including through the finalization of the ratification of CRPD (Indonesia);**

143.206. **Continue efforts to adopt the requisite measures to enable people with disabilities, especially children, to have access to the necessary education and health care, and to combat any discrimination against them (Libya);**

143.207. **Continue to step up measures aimed at eradicating discrimination and social prejudices against ethnic minorities and persons with disabilities (Argentina);**

143.208. **Continue efforts to promote and protect human rights of ethnic minorities (Ecuador);**

143.209. **Develop appropriate policies and measures to effectively support ethnic minorities (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

143.210. **Continue working on national programmes directed to protect the rights of the country's minorities (Nicaragua);**

143.211. **Undertake awareness-raising campaigns to change the mindset regarding persons belonging to ethnic minorities, and remedy the lack of a legislative framework designed to guarantee non-discrimination (Congo);**

143.212. **Take more adequate measures to provide education to ethnic minorities (South Sudan);**

143.213. **Ensure without delay effective protection of the rights of ethnic and religious minorities (Cabo Verde);**

143.214. **Respect the rights of ethnic and religious minorities and take the necessary measures to prevent and halt persecution, forced eviction and confiscation of their property (Mexico);**

143.215. **Combat poverty among migrant workers (Kyrgyzstan);**

143.216. **Continue in its endeavour to establish a broad-based, sustainable and participatory development framework to reach the disadvantaged groups of society (Ethiopia);**

143.217. **Adopt policies that will allow the active involvement of minority communities through consultation and participation in decision-making**

processes relating to areas affecting them, particularly on development issues (Namibia);

143.218. Continue development programmes, especially in rural areas (Oman);

143.219. Continue promoting the participation of citizens in decision-making processes (Nicaragua);

143.220. Continue national poverty reduction efforts (Sudan);

143.221. Continue its efforts in a systematic way to ensure the eradication of hunger and extreme poverty (Greece);

143.222. Continue to take steps to gradually bridge the gap in the standard of living between urban and rural areas (India);

143.223. Take further measures to ensure equitable and sustainable poverty reduction giving particular attention to vulnerable groups, especially in rural areas (Sri Lanka);

143.224. Reduce the disparities in the quality of education between urban, rural, remote areas or areas inhabited by ethnic minorities (Morocco);

143.225. Share its successful experiences on poverty reduction, food security and the fight against epidemics (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

143.226. Explore the possibilities for technical support, for instance through the Working Group on Enabling and Protecting Civil Society of the Community of Democracies (Canada);

143.227. Participate actively in the international programmes of technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights (Turkmenistan);

144. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

[English only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Viet Nam was headed by Mr. Ha Kim Ngoc, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and composed of the following members:

- Mr. Hoang Chi Trung, Director General of International Organizations Department., MOFA;
- Mr. Le Dinh Luyen, Chief of the Office of Steering Committee for Human Rights, MPS;
- Mr. Le Van Nghiem, Director General of Foreign Information Service, MIC;
- Mr. Nguyen Khanh Ngoc, Director General of International Laws Department., MOJ;
- Ms. Le Kim Dung, Director General of International Cooperation Department, MOLISA;
- Ms. Vy Xuan Hoa, Director General of International Cooperation Dept., Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs ICEMA);
- Ms. Bui Thi Minh, Judge of Criminal Court of People's Supreme Courl;
- Mr. Nguyen Manh Trung, Deputy Director General, Foreign Information and International
- Cooperation Dept., Commission for Communication and Education of the Party Central Committee;
- Ms. Trinh Thi Thuy Hang, Deputy Director General of Internal Affairs Deptartment, Government Office;
- Mr. Vu Anh Quang, Deputy Director General, Dept., of International Organizations, MOFA;
- Ms. Tran Thi Minh Nga, Deputy Director General of Buddhism Department, Government Committee for Religious Affairs;
- Ms. Nguyen Yen Hai, Deputy Director General Foreign Economic Relations Department, MPI;
- Mr. Pham Binh Dam, Deputy Director General of National Translation Center;
- Ms. Pham Thi Kim Anh, Deputy Director General, Dept. of International Organizations, MOFA;
- Mr. Nguyen Thanh Huy, Desk Officer, Office of MOFA;
- Mr. Tran Chi Thanh, Desk Offrcer, International Organizations Dept., MOFA;
- Mr. Ngo Le Hoang Vu, Desk Officer, International Organisations Dept:, MOFA;
- Ms. Ha Thi Thanh Huyen, International Organisations Dept., MOFA;
- Mr. Vu Viet Hung, Desk Officer, National Translation Center;

- Mr. Nguyen Trung Hieu, Officer, Office of Steering Committee for Human Rights, MPS;
- Ms. Pham Hong Minh, Office of Steering Committee for Human Rights, MPS;
- Mr. Dao Quy Loc, Desk Officer, International Laws Dept., MOJ. C/ Two Journalists:
- Mr. Le Hong Quang;
- Mr. Doan MaiHa.